



सत्यमेव जयते

Source Material for a History of the Freedom Movement in India

MAHATMA GANDHI

Volume III

(Parts - I to III Edited by Prof. N. R. Phatak
Parts - IV to VII Edited by Dr. B. G. Kunte)

KHILAFAT MOVEMENT

(1920 to 1921)

Volume X

(Edited by : Dr. K. K. Chaudhari)

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
MUMBAI

(Collected from the Maharashtra State and Government of India Records)

PROLOGUE

I am very glad to bring out the e-Book Edition (CD version) of Source Material for a History of the Freedom Movement. This e-book edition is facsimile reproduction of already published volumes.

So far twelve volumes are published under this series. They contain valuable data regarding India's struggle for freedom. These volumes form an important source for the scholars, historians who are interested in studying different phases and dimensions of the freedom movement. The material is collected from Government's secrete and confidential official records. Thus, these volumes have made available that information which was so far not easily accessible to the scholars.

Considering utility of these volumes, need was felt to preserve this treasure of knowledge. In this age of modernization, information and technology have become key words. To keep pace with the changing need of hour, I have decided to bring out a CD version of these volumes. I am sure, scholars and studious persons across the world will find these CDs immensely beneficial.

This CD contains total seven parts of Volume III, "Mahatma Gandhi" published within the span of 12 years, that is, from 1965-1977 and Volume X, "Khilafat Movement (1920-1921)" published in 1991. First three parts of Volume III were edited by Prof. N.R. Phatak, and the rest four parts were edited by Dr. B. G. Kunte; where as, Volume X was edited by Dr. K.K.Chaudhari.

I am thankful to the Honourable Minister, Shri. Ashokrao Chavan (Industries and Mines, Cultural Affairs and Protocol), and the Minister of State, Shri. Rana Jagjitsinh Patil (Agriculture, Industries and Cultural Affairs), Shri Bhushan Gagrani, (Secretary, Cultural Affairs) Department, Government of Maharashtra for being a constant source of inspiration.

Place: Mumbai

Dr. Arunchandra S. Pathak

Date: 31 March 2007

Executive Editor and Secretary

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PREFACE

In January 1953 the Government of India appointed a Board of Editors for the compilation of a History of Freedom Movement in India. In order to secure the material on which a history should be based, the Board requested the State Governments to set up Committees for the purpose of collecting within their regions such material as may be useful in the preparation of an account of the struggle for freedom which may be said to have begun after the loss of that freedom and which ended with the achievement of independence on 15 August 1947. The Government of Bombay accordingly set up in November 1953 the ' Bombay State Committee for a History of the Freedom Movement in India' consisting of the following members:

- (1) Shri S. K. Patil, M.P. (Bombay), *Chairman*,
- (2) Shri K. N. Desai, M.P. (Surat),
- (3) Shri Devkinandan Narayan, M.P. (Jalgaon),
- (4) Shri S. Nijlingappa, M.P. (Mysore),
- (5) Shri T. R. Deogirakar, M.P. (Poona),
- (6) Shri Maganbhai Desai, Gujarat Vidyapeeth (Ahmedabad),
- (7) Professor N. R. Phatak (Bombay),
- (8) Acharya V. P. Limaye (Poona),
- (9) Shri Lakshmanshastri Joshi (Wai),
- (10) Shri Thakorbhai Desai (Ahmedabad),
- (11) Professor M. R. Palande (Executive Editor, District Gazetteers, Bombay), Executive Secretary.

The Committee appointed Shri H. M. Joshi as Research Officer and late Shri Gopalrao Kulkarni as Collaborator. Research Investigators were also appointed for Maharashtra, Gujarat and Karnatak regions. Additional research and other staff was appointed from time to time as was found necessary to cope with the work. The work of gathering the material actually started in May 1954.

The Government of Bombay threw open to the Committee all its records and files, including Confidential and Secret files, in all departments, covering the period up to 1947. As it was the desire of the Central Board of Editors that the work of collecting material should be completed as soon as possible, the efforts of the Committee were mainly directed towards obtaining relevant information from the valuable Government documents most of which had never before been accessible to the public.

The Committee decided that the year 1818 which saw the defeat of the last *Peshwa* should be taken as the starting point of the period for which information had to be gathered. The one hundred and thirty years from 1818 to 1947 naturally lent themselves to the following three divisions :

- (1) 1818-85 (Till the establishment of the Indian National Congress),
- (2) 1885-1920 (Till the starting of the Non-Co-operation Movement),
- (3) 1920-47 (Till the achievement of Independence).

The Committee gathered information bearing on each of these periods, confining its attention mostly to what was available in Government files in the Records Office, Police Department and the Home Department of the Secretariat. No attempt was made to explore non-official sources of information excepting few newspapers. Interviews with a few important persons who were directly or indirectly connected with some movement or another in the cause of national regeneration and freedom were taken and statements of most of the persons were recorded. Copies of such material, as had all India importance, were sent to the Board of Editors, New Delhi.

The Central Board of Editors was dissolved in December 1955. But in view of the fact that some material available to the Bombay Committee had still to be scrutinized the tenure of that Committee was extended to 30 September 1956 on which date it was dissolved.

The Committee made a recommendation to the Government that important and suitable extracts from the papers scrutinized by the Committee's Office should be published by the Government so that they could serve as an authentic source material to the students of history who may be interested in the subject. Government were pleased to accept the recommendation and though the Committee was dissolved on 30 September 1956 the tenure of its office was extended.

The first two volumes of the Source Material for a History of Freedom Movement in India were published in 1957 and 1958 respectively, the first covering the period from 1818 to 1885 and the second from 1885 to 1920.

Professor N. R. Phatak took charge of this work as Executive Secretary in 1958. Professor Phatak collected voluminous material on different topics such as for the period from 1920 to 1947. But he mainly concentrated his attention on the material that was lying in the Government records, on Mahatma Gandhi, most of it, from Secret and Confidential files, which were not available to students of Gandhiji's life. It was proposed to publish this material first and the third volume of the Source Material for a History of the Freedom Movement in India was therefore called Mahatma Gandhi Volume.

As at present planned by the Gazetteers Department, with which the staff of the former office of the Committee for a History of the Freedom Movement in India was merged, there will be six parts in the series. Of these, three parts have been published and the fourth part is now being published. I may mention here that the press copy of this volume was prepared under the able guidance of Professor N. R. Phatak. I am indebted to Professor Phatak for the collection of this material.

Bombay :

October, 1973

B. G. KUNTE

Executive Editor and Secretary

A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T S

My thanks are due to the Home Department, the Commissioner of Police, the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, the Inspector-General of Prisons, the Director and the staff of the Department of Archives and Archaeology and the Maharashtra State Government for giving all facilities to consult and use extracts from Confidential Official Records.

I wish to express my gratefulness to the Librarian and Staff of the Central Library, Sachivalaya and the Librarians of Siddharth College, Elphinstone College, Asiatic Society of Bombay and University of Bombay for extending their co-operation in seeking useful references.

I am also indebted to the Director of Government Printing and Stationery and Manager of the Government Central Press for expediting the printing and publication of this volume.

I put on record my appreciation for the co-operation of Shri H. M. Joshi, Research Officer, in the former office and other staff members of the Gazetteers Department. My thanks are specially due to Shri B. N. Phatak, M.A., Research Collaborator, for his thorough assistance throughout the work and for the major share he had in the compilation work of this volume.

B. G. KUNTE

Executive Editor and Secretary

INTRODUCTION

This is Part IV of the Third Volume of the Maharashtra State publications in the series of the Source Material for a History of the Freedom Movement in India in the series of Mahatma Gandhi as depicted in the Government records. The period covered by the volume is from 1931 to 1932.

Mahatma Gandhi, Source Material for a History of the Freedom Movement in India, Volume III, Part I, covered the period from Gandhiji's arrival in India in the year 1915 to 1922. The material collected from the Government records show the gradual rise of Gandhiji in the leadership. When he came to India, he first went to Poona to join the Servants of India Society started by Hon. G. K. Gokhale. But the members of the Society opposed his joining the Society and due to Hon. G. K. Gokhale's death this decision to keep Gandhiji out was carried out. Gandhiji started his Sabarmati Ashram. Then Gandhiji was faced with financial difficulties. Due to the admission of a harijan, the donors threatened him to stop their contributions. But Gandhiji remained firm in his decision and his full faith in God enabled him to carry on the Ashram activities. Then he received a donation from an unknown philanthropist and the Ashram was continued, till he himself walked out from it for his famous Dandi March. The slow but sure rise of Gandhiji is covered in this part.

The Volume III, Part II, covers the period from 1922 to 1929. Gandhiji was arrested and sentenced to six years imprisonment. Though Gandhiji was sent to jail, he did not allow Government to sit at ease. He started fighting for his rights from within the jail. At one place Gandhiji had said that newspapers, books and magazines are as essential for a prisoner as air, water and food. Ultimately he partially succeeded because of his persistent demands.

In 1923 Gandhiji began to have some trouble and finally it was found out to be an acute case of appendicitis. Lieut. Col. Maddock decided to operate it immediately waiving Red-Tape. The news of his illness and its impact on the general masses was tremendous. It released the pent up emotions of people and prayers were held in temples and mosques for his speedy recovery. Political leaders demanded his release. At first Government thought that he should not be released but should be kept in jail. But this action would have made Government unpopular. So after scrutinizing the pros and cons of his release the Government decided to release him, in order to split the Congress Organisation. Gandhiji was unconditionally set free on 5 February 1924.

From 1924 to 1928 Gandhiji devoted his time for constructive work and allowed Deshbandhu C. R. Das and Pandit Motilal Nehru to carry out the programme of Council entry. Thus in a way he foiled the Government move

to divide the Congress Organisation. In 1929 Lord Irwin made an announcement regarding Dominion Status. Gandhiji said that the people should not slacken their activities on account of the Viceregal announcement.

The Volume III, Part III, covered the period from 1929 to 1931. After the successful boycott against Simon Commission, Gandhiji decided to consolidate the Indian National Congress and toured the country. He determined to launch an All-India Satyagraha on the issue of Salt Law. He declared that he would himself break the Salt Law and launch the Satyagraha. Gandhiji started from Ahmedabad on 12 March 1930 to reach Dandi, the place he had chosen for breaking the Salt Law.

The people all over the world were watching keenly Gandhiji's action. Some prominent Congress leaders were sceptical. Government was watchful. But without any hindrance Gandhiji reached Dandi on 5 April and on the next day, that is 6 April, Gandhiji broke the Salt Law. But he was not arrested. Immediately the pent up feelings of the people found their way and the entire nation followed in his foot-steps. There is an interesting story behind the deferred imprisonment of Gandhiji. It was rumoured that the Viceroy Lord Irwin was told of a prediction by an astrologer that Gandhiji would die in the year 1930.

This incarceration was most eventful. Mr. Slocombe, Correspondent of the Daily Herald, came to India. He saw Pandit Motilal Nehru (January 1930) and discussed with him the political situation and his views about attending the Round Table Conference. Then Mr. Slocombe went to Poona and approached the Government to allow him to see Gandhiji in jail. He was given (oral) permission by the Government authorities and he saw Gandhiji in Yeravda jail. He interviewed Gandhiji to know the political situation as well as his views about the Round Table Conference. He published his interview with Gandhiji in the Bombay Chronicle and Daily Herald which created a great sensation.

Thereafter Dr. Tej Bahadur Sapru and Dr. M. R. Jaykar approached the Viceroy to give them opportunity to see Gandhiji. The Viceroy gave them permission. Government of India decided to release the Congress leaders.

The present volume in the series covers the period from 1931 to 1932. After Gandhiji's release the Congress decided to participate in the Round Table Conference. The Indian National Congress sent Gandhiji, the sole representative of the Congress, to London to take part in the Round Table Conference. Some Congress leaders disliked that Gandhiji should go alone. They put forward some names but Gandhiji refused all. In the meanwhile Gandhiji felt that Government was not true to the pact. The Viceroy called him and persuaded him to proceed to England. Gandhiji came to Bombay straight from Simla and boarded the ship. While he was in London, the political activity of the Congress workers continued. The Government of India did not like these activities at all. Government arrested Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan, and brought into force the Bengal Ordinances. Sardar Patel wired

Gandhiji about the political situation and advised him to cancel other tours and come to India. In London, Gandhiji saw many English statesmen, went to labour area and explained them the Congress stand. During the Round Table Conference Gandhiji said he will not allow Backward classes to go out of the Hindu fold. He will even sacrifice his life for the cause. This statement was not taken seriously by the British authorities.

Gandhiji returned to India in the last week of December. Congress Working Committee members were all in Bombay. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was behind the bars before Gandhiji's arrival in India. Gandhiji wired Viceroy for an interview. But the Government of India was not in a mood to listen. Gandhiji's effort to save the political situation failed. Gandhiji and Sardar Patel were arrested and sent to Yeravda Central Prison, Poona.

Gandhiji again came to Yeravda Central Prison, Poona, after a lapse of nine years. This time he was not alone. Gandhiji had to look after Sardar Patel's health. Sardar Patel was suffering from nose trouble. He wrote to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, to call for doctors and give him treatment. Sardar Patel suffered from this trouble nearly throughout his confinement in jail. Then Gandhiji raised the issue of interviews and correspondence. During this stay Gandhiji wanted to study astronomy. He wanted the assistance of Professor Trivedi. Government first allowed him to see Gandhiji but afterwards raised the question of Government discipline. They wanted to know why a Government servant should see a State prisoner. After a thorough enquiry they allowed Professor Trivedi to visit Gandhiji to teach him astronomy. Miraben came to see him. Government refused her permission. Gandhiji raised this issue with the Government. Government said, no political person will be allowed to see him. Gandhiji replied by stating that she was not a political worker but she was an Ashram pupil and like a daughter to him. Miraben was prohibited to take part in Civil Disobedience Movement. It is interesting to read this correspondence itself.

In the meanwhile the British Parliament declared the Communal Award. Gandhiji immediately made it known that he was opposed to it and gave ultimatum to Government that he will go on fast. He wrote to the Viceroy, the Secretary of State and the Prime Minister of England. This was the Supreme moment in his life. Gandhiji decided to sacrifice his life for the cause of Hindu Vedic Dharma. The announcement caused a great stir. Hindu political leaders rushed to Poona. Government of India gave all facilities for the deliberations. All restrictions were removed. Gandhiji, though in Yeravda Central Prison, became a freeman temporarily. After long and protracted discussions between Depressed Class leaders and Hindu Sawarna Leaders finally Gandhi-Ambedkar Pact was arrived at in Poona. This is also known as the Poona Pact. Gandhiji was not satisfied with this only. Unless and until the Prime Minister of England accepted it and it was thus officially announced, Gandhiji decided to continue his fast. The Bombay Government and the Government of India wired to

London to give their decision urgently as Gandhiji's health was deteriorating. The Prime Minister after consulting the Bombay Government agreed to accept the Poona Pact. Thereupon Gandhiji broke his fast. The entire nation heaved a sigh of relief. Immediately the Government of Bombay wanted to withdraw all facilities. Gandhiji, though weak in health, took up the fight for his rights. The Government had no option but to yield.

This great drama is covered in this volume through Government documents. It will be seen that Gandhiji was keen on what his Ashram people should do. His sermon on knowledge is a revealing one. Though Gandhiji did not particularly emphasise, he knew the importance of education. His Yeravda letters to his Ashram people reveal many facets. Gandhiji made Yeravda Central Prison, a Mandir. Some of these letters are published as Yeravda Mandir letters. All these letters are included in this volume.

Yeravda Central Prison now no more remained a Prison to his followers but soon became a *Temple*, a place of pilgrimage.

The application of the Satyagraha method on a mass scale for the political liberation of a country is Gandhiji's great contribution to the world political movement. During the last century and this century the industrial and scientific revolution brought about tremendous changes which gave Governments all over the world powers which could be said to be all pervading. Today the Governments of different nations have practically absolute powers over their subjects. This absoluteness of authority has made ideas of liberty, fraternity and brotherhood null and void. If we look round the world large sections of people are compelled to live a segregated or regimented life. Human life is in the clutches of the States which control the great weapons of destruction. Mahatma Gandhi gave such suppressed suffering people a hope that they can oppose such Governments by Satyagraha with nonviolence. If a political worker is ready to sacrifice his own life for a big cause or real grievances of the downtrodden people by non-violent method, then in the long run he is bound to win. Today the Satyagraha principle is being usefully used by the downtrodden Negroes in America, and late Dr. Martin Luther King, the leader of the Negroes, openly acknowledged his debt to Mahatma Gandhi in this regard. Similarly in Europe and Africa this method has been used. Many universities have included this topic for Social and Political research. Many students are attracted to India to study India's struggle for freedom. These volumes would find a place of honour in their respective university libraries and also their own library, because this will help them to understand Mahatma Gandhi, his philosophy and the Satyagraha method.

B. G. KUNTE

Executive Editor and Secretary

MOHANDAS KARAMCHAND GANDHI

BOMBAY SECRET ABSTRACT 1931

Page 367, para. 508-A, dated 7th February 1931—

A letter from Gandhi to Shrimati Urmila Devi, 40/1 Rupchand Mukherji Lane, Bhawanipur, Calcutta, has come to notice. Replying to enquiries, he says that Satyagrahi prisoners should obey all jail regulations that would not be commonly considered to be harmful to human dignity. Satyagrahis attending courts should certainly show ordinary respect to court officials. A Satyagrahi should, generally speaking, answer a summons to give evidence. It is advisable to furnish information about parents, residence, etc. Hunger-strike can be resorted to in matters of self-respect. It is a weapon to be most sparingly used. There is nothing in the Congress resolution to prevent a Satyagrahi from entering upon defence. The practice is not so. But cases can be conceived where defence might be a duty.

Page 368, para. 511—

S. B., Bombay Presidency, Poona, February 24—

Young India now appears under the signature of M. K. Gandhi. In the issue, dated February 19, he states that he has resumed the editorship. The late editor, J. C. Kumarappa, also contributes an article criticising the Borsad incident.

Pages 399-400, para. 528 (3), February 7—

U. P. Secret Abstract, dated 7th February 1931—Para. 71 B, Allahabad

Mrs. Uma Nehru presided at the Independence Day meeting on January 26 at Purshotam Das Park. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was present and consequently a large gathering, estimated at 8,000 assembled to see him. The proceedings began with national songs by Chandra Kant Malaviya and two others, that it is time for attaining independence and sacrifices should be made in the cause by youths. Mrs. Uma Nehru tried to read the resolution of remembrance but the crowd wanted to hear Pandit Jawaharlal so she had to stop. Pandit Jawaharlal, who was loudly cheered, said he had been released a few hours before the appointed time on account of his father's illness and he was

some what indebted to Government for the favour although he considered himself an enemy and rebel towards Government. He then referred to the resolution of remembrance, and reminded his audience of what has happened in the country during the last 12 months and the sacrifices which had been made by different communities. The resolution would remind them of the martyrs of Peshawar, Bombay, Sholapur and other places, and how the soldiers and Police had acted, and how the women and children had taken part in the battle for freedom. He specially praised the volunteers and exhorted the audience to complete the work. He said he was grieved at the serious illness of his father not because of his relationship but because the lion of the country was lying on a sick bed and he asked the audience to pray for his recovery and safe return to duty. Mrs. Uma Nehru again read the resolution of remembrance, but, as the audience had begun to move it was hurriedly finished and declared carried unanimously. Sardar Narbada Prasad Singh then read out the Independence Resolution which was also carried unanimously. He also moved the last resolution for prayers for the speedy recovery of Pandit Motilal Nehru.

On Independence Day, January 26, the national flag was hoisted in the chowk in the presence of about 500 persons, most of whom were the youthful members of the Vanar Sena, who had been addressed at a rally on January 25 by Mrs. Uma Nehru who exhorted them to carry on the work for which they had been organised. Most of the prominent leaders who have been recently released have arrived in Allahabad but did not appear in public until a large public meeting was held on February 1.

The presence of Mr. Gandhi proved a great attraction on February 1. The afternoon meeting was attended by an enormous crowd, estimated at 20,000. It was Puranmashi, the last day of the Magh Mela, which no doubt enabled a large number of outsiders to be present. In the morning many villagers arrived at Allahabad station without tickets and were arrested, under the idea that as Mr. Gandhi was here, tickets would not be required. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru intervened and paid Rs. 200 and procured their release. The following leaders were present : Pandit and Mrs. Jawaharlal Nehru, Pandit Mrs. and Miss Shyamlal Nehru, Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel, K. M. Munshi, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Sen Gupta, Pandit and Mrs. Madan Mohan Malaviya, Govind Malaviya, Ramakant Malaviya, Pandit Govind Vallabh Pant of Almora, Babu Sheo Prasad, Dr. Murarilal, Mr. Raft Ahmad Kidwai, Babu Mohanlal Saxena, Babu Purshotam Das Tandon, Sardar Narbada Prasad Singh, Dr. Syed Mahmud, Professor Bari, Sardar Sardul Singh, Mr. Awadhesh Narayan Sahay, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu and Raja Awadhesh Narayan Singh of Kalakankar (Partabgarh).

The arrangements for a loud speaker were not very satisfactory, and Mr. Gandhi's speech was repeated by Sheo Prasad Gupta. Mr. Gandhi

thanked God for the sacrifices rendered by the people and congratulated them as well, with special mention of the sacrifices made by the women of India, whose part had really startled the whole world ; they had given up purdah, offered sacrifices of their children and not stopped their husbands from going to the battle. They have also gladly sent their children and husbands to jail. When a battle takes place with weapons, women, children and aged persons are exempted, but through the kindness of God their battle is such that all can join and have actually joined. The women have made many sacrifices and shown the utmost bravery enabling Indians to raise their heads and adding 3 or 4 inches to their stature. In this battle, Hindus, Muslims, Parsis, Christians and Sikhs take part, and if all stick to the path of peace and righteousness, the tension which we apprehend between Hindus and Muslims will altogether vanish. He therefore begged the people in all encounters with Government never to stray from the path of peace and righteousness. He knew that they would completely adhere to the principle of non-violence, but he wished to say that if they commit the slightest mistake they will be ruined because they have taken a solemn vow before God and the world to fight this battle with perfect non-violence. Men, women and children should use the charkha and wear khaddar and should throw away foreign cloth ; they should give up wine, gambling and filthy things, because if Swaraj came to filthy hands, it would ruin India.

After Mr. Gandhi's departure Pandit Jawaharlal referred to the incident at the railway station and told the audience that they had not yet decided to start this sort of Satyagraha.

Page 489, para. 651 (2) —

Extract from the United Provinces Secret Abstract, dated February 21, 1931

Serious communal riots took place in Benares during the week. Total casualties were 236 including 26 killed. The trouble originated over the funeral of Peshawari Cloth Merchant who was shot, it is alleged, by the captain of the Congress volunteers.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad presided at the memorial meeting for Pandit Motilal on the banks of the Ganges at Allahabad. Mr. Gandhi and other leaders were present and the audience was about 8,000 including a large number of villagers. Mr. Gandhi in his speech referred to the communal riots at Benares and said that if Swaraj was attained in such circumstances, it was worth throwing into the river.

Pages 532-33, para. 707, February 28—

M. K. Gandhi is expected to come to Ahmedabad in the near future and prominent leaders are preparing to welcome him and collections are being made to present him with a purse.

Extract from District Superintendent of Police, Ahmedabad's Report No. D-51, dated the 11th March 1931

City.—M. K. Gandhi arrived at Ahmedabad by the Delhi Mail on 9th March 1931. He alighted at the Shahibagh level crossing where he was met by Ambalal Sarabhai, Lady Sulochana, Sir Girijaprasad Chinubhai, Mrs. Lilawati Desai, Kasturbhai Lalbhai and other leaders, who garlanded him with cotton yarn. He drove through the City to Ranchhodlal's bungalow near the Gujarat College. He was given a rousing reception outside the railway station and along Richey (now Gandhi) Road. While he was passing Panch Kuva, some one threw a shoe at Gandhi which missed him and struck a Sub-Inspector of Police who was on duty. The crowd which gathered at the railway station and along the route to Ellis Bridge was estimated at 100,000.

No untoward incident took place.

On the 10th March 1931, Gandhi attended a meeting of the Vanar Sena and Bal Sevika Sangh (lady volunteers) at 9-30 a.m. The meeting was private and was held in the Visa Shrimali Wadi at Manekchowk. The younger element was rather rowdy and Gandhi, in the course of a speech complimenting the youthful volunteers on their work in the Civil Disobedience movement, threatened to discontinue unless quiet was restored. His warning had no effect with the result that he cut his speech short and sat down. The attendance was about 2,500. He was to have addressed the Picketing Mandal Samiti after this meeting but he postponed doing so on account of the pandemonium caused by the Vanar Sena (Monkey Corps).

At 5-30 p.m. on 10th March 1931, Gandhi addressed a public meeting on the river-bed. The attendance was not less than 30,000. Lady Sulochana presented Gandhi with a purse of Rs. 70,000 and ten maunds of hand-spun yarn on behalf of the Citizens of Ahmedabad. She also gave him a miniature gold takli which was auctioned by Mahadev Desai (Gandhi's Secretary) and knocked down to Chaitan Prasad, Lady Sulochana's son-in-law, for Rs. 1,000. Gandhi, in the course of his speech, referred to his compromise with His Excellency the Viceroy which he stated would lead to "Purna Swaraj". He urged the audience to abide by the terms of the agreement, to boycott foreign goods and liquor, and to use khaddar. He was grieved at the sight of so many foreign caps at the meeting. About 6,000 persons who attended the meeting wore black caps. The audience was somewhat rowdy, and it was with great difficulty that Gandhi was able to take his place on the platform. His speech lasted for about fifteen minutes and very few heard what he said.

At 9 p.m. on 10th March 1931, the Swadeshi Sabha presented Gandhi with a purse of Rs. 51,000 at the bungalow of Seth Mangaldas Girdharlal. This was a private meeting attended by about 100 persons consisting mostly of millionaires and agents. He addressed this meeting at length on Swadeshi.

Page 534, para. 709, March 9—

The Deputy Superintendent of Police reports that Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Patel are going to Bardoli on March 14 and that it is the intention of the Congress workers to approach the Collector on the subject of the restoration of the Ashrams before that date.

It is the intention of the two national leaders to visit selected places in the Taluka and pay their tribute to the migrators, etc.

Page 591, para. 791, March 12—

M. K. Gandhi addressed a meeting of 300 picketers and volunteers at Sheth Ranchhodlal's bungalow on March 11. He expressed his appreciation of the work done by women in the Civil Disobedience movement and urged the audience to continue peaceful picketing and boycott of foreign cloth and liquor. At the conclusion of his speech, Rohit Mehta and others asked him if British goods should not be boycotted, to which Gandhi replied that British goods were included in the definition of foreign goods.

M. K. Gandhi addressed a meeting of 5,000 women at Visa Shrimali Wadi, on March 11. He advised them to wear khaddar and to assist in khaddar propaganda. At the conclusion of the meeting there was a stampede to get to the one only door in the Wadi with the result that seven women were knocked down and trampled upon. As they were unconscious, they were removed to the Civil Hospital where one Mrs. Mulchand Asharam Shah died.

M. K. Gandhi addressed a meeting of 10,000 mill-workers at the Labour Union Office on March 10. He advised them to wear khaddar and to give up drinking liquor. He was presented with a purse of Rs. 700.

V. J. Patel at Adalaj (N. Dashkroi) addressed a meeting of 1,500 persons who had migrated to Baroda State limits. He advised them to return to their respective villages and to pay up their land revenue dues.

M. K. Gandhi and Vallabhbhai J. Patel left Ahmedabad for Borsad by car on March 12 at 7 a.m.

About 150 cloth merchants waited on M. K. Gandhi on March 11 in Ahmedabad City and asked him what they should do with their stock of foreign cloth which had been sealed under Congress orders. Gandhi informed them that Congress would purchase such stock. This reply, however, did not satisfy them, and they are arranging to dispose of their cloth privately.

(2) *Kaira District, March 12.*—Gandhi's and Vallabhbhai's motor came to Navagam where about 500 men were present. On the Mayan and Vasna Roads people were also waiting for Gandhi. At Matar about 5,000 men were present. Gandhi was requested to wait for a few minutes but no speech was made and the motor went towards Nadiad.

Anand, March 12.—Just near Navli village where the Hijaratis stay, 2,500 people of the surrounding villages had gathered to receive Gandhi, who was accompanied by Vallabhbhai Patel. They were taken to Pandals where they were garlanded. Vallabhbhai asked them to return to their villages. The people asked Gandhi whether their lands would now be confiscated and he said "no". Gandhi asked them to pay up the land revenue.

Borsad, March 12.—A meeting of about 10,000 persons was held from 1-30 to 2-30 p.m. on March 12 when M. K. Gandhi addressed them and said : " I cannot say that the hopes which I had when I last visited Borsad have been fulfilled ; but you are not to blame for it. You have fulfilled your vows. The women have given a good share. I have been told the whole affairs. Men and women have received lathi charges and bullets everywhere in the Kaira District. The youths too have endured lathis, and I am very pleased. Neither the Sardar nor I have spoken about the recompense of your losses. It cannot be said when the present fight will end. Any one who is quite prepared to be ruined in every way should join the present fight. About 900 acres of land have been sold in Borsad Taluka. It will surely be given back when Swaraj is obtained. If land is not received back, do not think that Swaraj is gained. The land which has been purchased by Dharalas can be taken back by mutual agreement and not by force. The Dharalas are our brethren. If you have to give money to take back your land, take it from me and I will take it from Government. Now none should stay in the Mandvas ; go home. Kaira Zilla people are not preparing khaddar. All should wear khaddar. Vallabhbhai Patel said : " I congratulate you all on your preserving peace. Be sure the land is not to go out of your hands; it is ours. Peace has not been settled. It is not certain when it will be. We have to gather strength if we have to fight again. There should be complete boycott of liquor and foreign cloth."

Kaira, March 14.—M. K. Gandhi, Vallabhbhai J. Patel, Gopaldas Ambaidas Desai and Mohanlal Kameshwar Pandya visited the Mandvas of "Hijaratis" promised to return to their villages on March 16. The following meeting was held :

Date	Place	Audience	Remarks
March 12, 1931 4-06 p.m.	Kathana	10,000	<p>M. K. Gandhi said : " I see your union greater than last year and I am much pleased. You have been recompensed for losses to your houses, cattle and lands. If you want Swaraj do not ask for compensation. The Hijaratis had full faith in Barias that they will not buy their land. Now the Barias should, at all costs, give the land back."</p> <p>Vallabhbhai J. Patel said : " Last year I was not allowed to speak and was arrested. I am glad that you have kept your vow. I am very much grieved at seeing the separation between the Dharalas and Patidars. The Dharalas who purchased the lands of Patidars must return them. The movement will be continued in the District if the Barias do not return the land. When Swaraj is obtained the land is bound to return to its real owner. Six hundred Patidars quitted the village while 300 Barias remained in the villages. This is not a good thing. The Patidars are quite fit to' rule. The Government will not now help the Barias. When the time comes they will punish them and make them answer Hazri in the Chora. Even a demon will not do as has been done by the Borsad Mamlatdar. All should obey Gandhi's command and return to their villages." The meeting concluded with the singing of " Vande Mataram ".</p>

The party left Ras for Sunav at 7 p.m. The following meetings were also held :

Date	Place	Audience	Remarks
March 12, 1931	Sunav	About 8,000 men and 3,000 women.	M. K. Gandhi said : "I am very tired but will speak a little. Terms have been made for a truce. The fight is not over; it is stopped temporarily." Vallabhbhai J. Patel said : " The movement is only stopped to see what Government gives. We have to pay land revenue. But how can those pay who have suffered loss? The fight is not to stop unless the land is given back. All should wear khaddar."
March 12, 1931	Bochasan	3,000	Gandhi said : " I have come here to visit the Satyagraha Ashram. I will give replies to your questions. On March 16 Hijaratis should return to their homes. The Khalsa land will surely be returned. If it is not returned think that Swaraj is not obtained. The Police Patel, Ravaniyas etc., can resume their duties. They should apply for their posts, but should not pardon. The property which is attached will be given back. The confiscated guns will be given back if not sold. Land revenue should be paid." He then advocated the use of khaddar.
March 13, 1931 4-00 p.m.	Gana village	4,000	Hijaratis of Gana village arranged the meeting on M. K. Gandhi's arrival. Gandhi and Vallabhbhai J. Patel were garlanded and presented with a purse of Rs. 300. M. K. Gandhi said : " Our campaign is stopped. Each man should spin, weave and use khaddar."
March 13, 1931 5-00 p.m.	Anand	2,500	One Bhanvande Kashibhai presented a purse of Rs. 1,300 on behalf of Anand people. M. K. Gandhi said : " You have patiently borne lathi blows and bullets at Dakor, but you have still to undergo hardships."

They then left for Nadiad at 5-15 p.m. They were garlanded at Lambhwel. While coming from Anklaav they visited the Mandvas of the Sandesar people and asked them to go to the village and pay the land revenue. About 500 persons were present who gave Gandhi a purse of Rs. 150.

On March 13, at Virsad, Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Patel stopped their car for a minute and gave an interview to Amin Chaturbhuj and his wife Hiralaxmi and Chaturbhai. It is said that Chaturbhai Veribhai presented his house and land to M. K. Gandhi.

Chaklasi, March 13.—About 4,000 men and 1,000 women assembled at Narsanda to receive Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Patel, who arrived by motor at 5-15. Shankar Ganesh presented a purse of Rs. 101. At 5-25 they left Chaklasi.

Other meetings were as follows :

Date	Place	Audience	Remarks
March 13, 1931	Anklav	10,000 men and 5,000 women.	V. J. Patel's speech.

Borsad.—At Dhumdakuva about 2,000 people were present to receive M. K. Gandhi, who waited there for five minutes and left without giving a speech.

Note.—At this juncture there was an uproar from the public who wanted to hear Gandhi and so Vallabhbhai Patel had to close his speech. Owing to the chaos and disorder, M. K. Gandhi left the place at 9-30 p.m. without making any speech.

(3) *Surat, March 14*—The District Superintendent of Police reports, Jalalpore.—" I visited Karadi, Rashtriya Shala, yesterday evening. The Congress workers had renovated the Mandap in Gandhi's old camp, and a Pandal was in course of construction near the spot where Abbas Tyebji and the volunteers were arrested last year on the Karadi-Matwad Road, where M. K. Gandhi will speak to-day."

M. K. Gandhi arrived Matwad at 7 a.m. Gandhi was accompanied by V. J. Patel, Mrs. Kasturben Gandhi, Maniben V. Patel, Mithuben Petit, Mahadeo Haribhai Desai, Pyarelal, Morarji Desai, Kanayalal Desai and Mohanlal Kameshwar Pandya. He proceeded to Karadi temporary Mandap erected near the Karadi-Matwad Road and addressed a meeting of about 2,500 people from the surrounding villages.

M. K. Gandhi said : " We separated on May 4, 1930 from Karadi. You must have been sorry for it and so was I; at the same time I was also glad to find that Government did what they should have done. It was not proper on the part of Government to arrest others and not me who was the leader of the Government. By arresting other leaders the Government, and perhaps the public, thought your spirit would be broken, but that was not so and the Dandi March and pilgrimage proved this. Now you are required to do much more than you have already done. What you did then was inspired by excitement and the credit you got by breaking laws, which even the women readily joined in. When I was arrested in 1922 it was expected that you would carry on constructive work but you did not do so. Had you carried on for six months more you would have obtained Swaraj then. This time the work is of such a nature that both your and my patience will be put to a severe test.

Now I will tell you what you have to do. Firstly we have come to a compromise with Government, so the question of non-payment of land is gone; therefore, those who are able to pay should do so. We are not to quarrel with the Government at present. If the time should again come for us to fight with Government we should be prepared to do so. Land revenue has to be paid every year and similarly one can stop paying it any year. However, as we have compromised with Government you must pay up. However, there is provision made for those who have suffered and are unable to pay; so you need not fear. Now we have not to break any laws. We used to prepare salt in order to break the law and fill the jails. Now you are not to do that. Those who live on the sea-coast where salt can be picked up may use it for domestic purposes, but you cannot sell it outside your own villages. Later, when we have got power we should see that laws are framed to deal with the Salt Act.

When picketing for temperance you should be polite and peaceful. For this reason I prefer that it should be done by women. The women of every village should take up this work, so that it will not be necessary for us to maintain Chavanis, etc. We do not want to picket the liquor shops; it is better to picket the customers by going from house to house. You have not to try and stop drinking with a view to stopping Government revenue, but from a moral point of view.

Apart from there being no foreign cloth, there should not be any mill cloth even or yarn in your villages; you should produce all your own cloth. A lot of you here, wearing white, are not in khaddar; and many of you again have not made but purchased it.

I hear there are Panchayats in your villages. You should settle your disputes through them instead of going to Courts.

You can also do your sanitary and medical work, and other administrative work through these Panchayats. You will have to pay only land revenue to Government, and as there will be no other sort of interference from Government, this is your Swaraj.

These Panchayats should be required to give you protection, volunteers could be appointed to protect your villages from thefts and dacoits, etc. When the Government Police catch culprits they try to cure them by punishment. When you catch such offenders you should try and cure them by persuasion and love; such people are our brothers. If you will do this Swaraj is yours.

He requested them to remove untouchability.

You should not be angry with those among you who did not give up Government service or those who arrested you. It is the duty of a satyagrahi to win people over by love and not by force.

Some one asked Gandhi about cutting palm trees. He replied that none should be cut by force, but only with the consent of the owner."

M. K. Gandhi went to Navsari at 9 a.m.

The President and Members of the Tradesmen's Association at Navsari presented Gandhi with an address and offered a purse of Rs. 625. Gandhi said he would not accept it unless they were prepared not to sell foreign cloth, and show that this money was not from the profits of sales of foreign cloth.

A conference of Congress workers is being held at the Bhakta Ashram, Navsari.

Another meeting will be held at 2-30 p.m. at Sisodra after which Gandhi proceeds to Bardoli at 5-30 p.m. to-day.

Page 601, para. 802 (1), February 21 —

Extracts from the Delhi Secret Abstract, dated 21st February 1931

Public attention has been rivetted on the arrival of Mahatma Gandhi in Delhi on the 17th, and the subsequent arrivals of Congress leaders, so much so that the mourning celebrations for the death of Motilal Nehru were a very secondary affair.

On reaching Delhi, the Mahatma put up at Dr. Ansari's house in Darya Gunj, and addressed some 200 persons who had assembled to meet him, to the effect that whatever the result of his interview with His Excellency might be, it could not be Purna Swaraj, hence, Civil Disobedience should be continued at full blast, and only khaddar, and not even Swadeshi mill cloth, should be worn. Nothing is known of the interview between Mahatma Gandhi

and His Excellency, as the former has kept his promise not to disclose anything, and though such public utterances as he has made, have not been particularly encouraging, the Press in general have been more optimistic, while many sections of the public are certainly bringing pressure to bear for peace. The Mahatma was too busy to appear in public until Friday 20, when an advertisement of a meeting, at which he was to speak, attracted an audience, according to the Hindustan Times, of over 2 lakhs, and according to the Police reports of 80,000 persons. This speech followed the usual lines and has been reported in all the papers, but since the loud speakers installed did not work, it is doubtful whether more than about 10 per cent of the persons present heard anything at all.

Page 641, para, 840 (1) —

Ahmedabad, March 14.—M. K. Gandhi arrived in Ahmedabad from Delhi on March 9 at 10 a.m. He was given a tremendous reception as he drove through the heart of the City before proceeding to the bungalow of Sheth Ranchhodlal Amratlal, his host. He addressed several meetings and was presented with purses Rs. 70,000 (at public meetings in river bed on March 10), Rs. 51,000 (by Swadeshi Sabha) and Rs. 700 (by the members of the Labour Union). He left Ahmedabad for Borsad on the morning of March 12.

Ahmedabad, March 16.—M. K. Gandhi stopped at Ashlala for a few minutes on March 12 while on his way to Borsad. He was presented with a purse of Rs. 127.

Page 642, para. 862 (2, 3, 4) —

(2) *Kaira, March 14.*—When M. K. Gandhi went to Ras on March 12 in addition to the public meeting at which he delivered a speech he had a private meeting in the Dharamshala with 22 of the leading Patidars.

One Asha Lallu was the spokesman for the villagers, and said that until the old Patidar Patel was given back his post and the forfeited land handed back to the original owners the Hyratis would not return to their villages.

Gandhi replied that this was not possible, but that they should make out a list of the people who had purchased the land and Darbar. Gopaldas A. Desai would see if he could make some arrangement. He said that if they did not wish to return to their villages it was their affair, but warned them that the Baroda State authorities would shortly drive them out of their limits. Asha Lallu stated that the village had lost more than 6 lakhs. Gandhi replied that their monetary sacrifice was nothing in consideration of the attainment of Swaraj. Asha Lallu stated that there was ill-feeling between the Patidars and Dharalas of the village, and it was very likely that some murders would be committed after their return to the village. Vallabhbhai Patel intervened and said that it could not be helped if 4 and 5 persons were killed, that he

was full of bitterness, that up to now they had harassed the Dharalas and it was now their turn to bear with hardships. It was their own fault if there was no unity in the village and they should have persuaded the Dharalas to accompany them into Baroda limits. Asabhai said we had to recover money from persons by filling civil suits against them, but now the limitation period was over. Vallabhbhai told him that he should have done this in the proper time. Asabhai replied that they dared not go to Borsad because they would have been arrested, whereupon Gandhi commented, "It is a blessing for a Congressman to embrace arrest, and thus you apparently have violated the Congress precepts." The people were undoubtedly disappointed with the result of Gandhi's visit, and as he went away some of them were complaining bitterly to each other and saying "This Gandhi and this Vallabhbhai have completely ruined us, will not keep us and now where are we to go and what can we do ?"

People are generally relieved that peace has been declared, and mutual admiration meetings are being held when volunteers and others who have been to jail or endure lathi blows congratulate each other. Leaders who were frightened of speaking before least they should be arrested have now become courageous and deliver speeches in which frequent allusions are made to the Pindari Police and the atrocities which they have committed. Policemen have to put with many insults. Land revenue collection has considerably fallen.

On March 13, Gandhi spoke to an audience of 5,000 at Harsanda. When he said that Swaraj is at hand. He thanked all for their help in the movement.

(3) *Surat, March 15.*—Gandhi arrived at Sisodra at 2-40 p.m. and addressed a meeting of about 4 to 5 thousand people on March 14.

Gandhi then said that Vallabhbhai had told them all that was necessary, and added :

"For my speech you have no need to use your ears but your eyes. This is my lecture." (He was spinning on the takli.)

Gandhi and party left Sisodra at about 3-45 p.m. and arrived at Bardoli (14th March) about 5 p.m.

After Gandhi's arrival he hoisted the Congress Flag on the Bardoli Ashram and performed the formal opening ceremony in the evening before about 30 prominent Congress workers and a crowd of about 400 people.

Surat, March 16.—Gandhi arrived at Surat (15th March) from Bardoli about 4-30 p.m. and proceeded to the Swaraj Ashram where he addressed a meeting of Vanar Senas. He congratulated them on their work, exhorted them to continue production of khadi, peacefully picket liquor and foreign cloth, etc., and gave them advice about their conduct.

Vallabhbhai Patel addressed them in a similar strain.

The meeting held at Rampura Bava Wadi, Surat, was timed to commence at 6-30 p.m. but Gandhi did not arrive till 8 p.m.

Gandhi apologised for being late and said that he had an important meeting to attend in Bombay tomorrow morning.

In the course of his speech he said : " You should carefully study the conditions of the truce and carefully follow them with truth and non-violence. If you do, our strength will be increased to such an extent that no power on earth will be able to check it, and we are sure to get Swaraj early.

If you follow these conditions and secure Hindu-Muslim unity it will not be a matter of 4 to 5 years, but Swaraj will come in the near future. Without unity real Swaraj cannot be obtained."

Gandhi received presents of purses and kind in the meeting amounting to about Rs. 25,000.

They left for Bombay by the 9-33 p.m. train (on 15th March).

Surat, March 17.—On March 15 at about 5-30 p.m. during his visit to Surat Gandhi conferred with the " Semast Zari Mandal" (Embroiderers' Association). He asked them to boycott foreign cloth and to the embroidery on swadeshi cloth. He was presented with a purse of Rs. 3,502-4-0 and one Takli by the Mandal. He also interviewed 50 merchants of the cotton association, and exhorted them to stock cotton and spin it on the Takli. They presented him with a purse of Rs. 6,700. He saw 100 female picketers and 50 local Congress workers. He exhorted the women to continue peaceful picketing of foreign cloth, toddy and liquor shops, and asked the latter to carry on their work peacefully. A purse of Rs. 447 was presented to him by the Temperance Association.

(4) *S. B. Sind C.I.D., Karachi, March 16.*—Gandhi is leaving Delhi on March 22 and will arrive in Karachi on March 24. Vallabhbhai J. Patel will accompany Gandhi to Karachi.

Page 660, para. 873 (15)—

Extract from the Delhi Secret Abstract dated February 28, 1931 Nasik, March 14.—A meeting addressed by Mahatma Gandhi was held in the Hindu College on 25th February 1931 under the presidentship of the Principal of the College, Mr. S. K. Sen, and was attended by about 900 students and practically all the Indian and European members of the staff of the Hindu and St. Stephen's and Law Colleges, the Registrar of the University was also present.

Gandhi in his speech pressed for Hindu-Musalman unity, and the co-operation of the youths of India in the present movement.

Page 687, para. 940 (1 and 2) —

(1) *Kaira, March 14.*—M. K. Gandhi and Vallabhbhai J. Patel came from Ahmedabad and visited Navgam, Naika, Navli, Vasna, Matar, Nadiad, Uttersanda, Boriavi, Kanjri, Borsad, Ras, Bocharan, Sunav, Anklav and Narsanda during the week.

Abbas Tyabji visited Nadiad on March 12 and went to Ahmedabad.

(2) *B. B. & C. I. Railway, Bombay, March 21.*—On March 13 a large crowd assembled at Baroda Station to see Gandhi pass through on his way to Surat. They were informed that Gandhi was not due till 2 a.m. and they would be admitted at that time. Their conduct was provocative and on the arrival of the light engine of the Kathiawar Mail a concerted rush was made on the barrier and second class gate. The three policemen on duty there were jostled and mishandled. One retaliated with the stick he carried and this further incensed the crowd. The three policemen were further abused and hustled and the crowd swarmed on the platform, remaining there till Gandhi had left. Gandhi did not leave his compartment and refused to see the crowd. The report has been sent to the Resident, Baroda, and a case registered under sections 147-332, Indian Penal Code, and sections 120-121, Railways Act.

Pages 688-89, para. 940 (3), (4), (5), (6) —

The Bombay Provincial Congress Committee convened two meetings in the mill area on March 16, which were addressed by M. K. Gandhi.

One of the meetings was held at 8-30 p.m. at Parel. About 20,000 persons attended the meeting, prominent amongst whom were—K. F. Nariman, Jamnadas Dwarkadas, Mukund Malaviya, B. T. Ranadive, G. L. Kandalkar, Miss Slade, Mrs. Kasturbai Gandhi, V. H. Joshi, Sunder Kabadi, R. M. Jambhekar, Vasant Khale, V. H. Kulkarni, S. B. Mahadeshwar and A. A. Shaikh.

About 300 Congress volunteers in khaki were in attendance.

At about 7 p.m. on that day B. T. Ranadive collected about 100 members of the Young Workers' League at Lalbaug and went in procession to the place of meeting. The processionists were carrying red flags and placards bearing the following inscriptions :

- (1) Victory to the Meerut prisoners.
- (2) Victory to the Lahore Conspiracy case.
- (3) Down with the Truce makers.
- (4) Victory to the Working classes.

When they arrived at the place of meeting they were stopped from going on to the platform by S. B. Mahadeshwar and other Congress volunteers. Mahadeshwar was, therefore, slapped on the face by one of the processionists.

About 50 processionists rushed on the platform and hoisted the red flag by the side of the Congress tri-coloured flag. This caused some excitement amongst the audience for some time. One man fainted and fell down on the platform. Quiet was, however, soon restored. Gandhi arrived at 8-30 p.m. and the proceedings of the meeting commenced. B. T. Ranadive at the outset condemned the Delhi agreement characterising it as a betrayal of the workers and peasants in India. He asked Gandhi whether any of the communists or the workers and peasants in India were consulted before concluding the truce. He emphatically stated that the agreement was beneficial only to the Princes, landlords and the capitalists. He enquired of Gandhi as to why he had given up his eleven points and why he did not do anything for the release of the Meerut prisoners and for Bhagat Singh and others. He declared that unless the present imperialist system of Government was destroyed, independence could not be achieved in India. He asked the peasants and workers of India to continue the fight for independence to the bitter end.

G. L. Kandalkar following Ranadive also condemned the agreement and explained that the Bombay mill-hands had joined the Civil Disobedience campaign with the hope of securing independence. He declared that the workers had no quarrel with the Congress but that they had every right to press for their demands. He pointed out that when the men of the Standard Mill, belonging to a Congressman, struck work for increase in wages, he sent for the Police and had them beaten. He declared that the agreement was useful only to the capitalists and that labour leaders were still being sent to jail.

M. K. Gandhi in his speech explained the implications of the truce and declared that he had never betrayed the workers in his life and that the independence resolution of the Lahore Congress would be reiterated at the Karachi Congress. Replying to the criticisms of B. T. Ranadive, he said that he had been living with the workers in South Africa and working in their interests much before communism was known in India. Referring to the demand about the release of the Meerut prisoners, he said that he was unable at that stage to insist on their release but assured the workers that if they would help him in increasing the strength of the Congress not only the Meerut prisoners but all the non-political prisoners would come out of jail. He advised the young workers to be patient. He said that he did not wish to do harm to the Princes and the capitalists. He said that the capitalists in India had suffered a lot during the last twelve months and that they deserved his sympathy. He added that if any of the people did not agree with his views at the meeting they were welcome to put forth their views before the Congress at Karachi. Referring to his eleven points he stated that they were formulated before the Civil Disobedience movement was started and that the Swaraj scheme which would be formulated would include them.

Another meeting of about 15,000 people was addressed by M. K. Gandhi at Dadar near the Tilak Bridge the same night. K. F. Nariman presided. He spoke in much the same strain as above and wound up by saying that the agreement was only a truce and not permanent peace.

(4) *Bombay Suburban District, March 21.*—The Congress leaders were busy up to March 18 making preparations to receive M. K. Gandhi and collecting money to be presented to him in a purse. Some Rs. 10,000 were collected in Ghatkopar; while G. S. Rindani and V. P. Desai collected Rs. 5,000 including Rs. 1,000 from Mulraj Khatav.

On March 18, M. K. Gandhi came to Vile-Parle at 7 a.m. and visited the Bhagini Sewa Mandir. He held private interviews with the women workers of the Suburbs for about an hour and then attended the meeting in the Church compound just before the conclusion of Vallabhbhai J. Patel's address. After the meeting he went to the Chawni at about 9-30 p.m. where he had a private talk for a couple of hours with Maharashtrian leaders.

He then motored to Andheri Station in the noon to catch the Frontier Mail and left for Delhi with Seth Jamnalal Bajaj by 1 p.m. The Frontier Mail was specially stopped for about two minutes at Andheri Station to pick up Gandhi. Gandhi was garlanded on behalf of the Railway Staff. Among those present on the Andheri Railway Station platform were Dr. Jivraj Mehta, Surji Vallabhdas and Mrs. Jankibai Bajaj. Among those who left for Delhi by the same train were Mrs. Kasturbai Gandhi, Vallabhbhai Patel (the Presidentelect of the Karachi Congress), Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Subhash Chandra Bose, Mahadeo Desai, Devidas Gandhi and several other members of the Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad.

At Vile-Parle on March 18 there was a large gathering of about 8,000 to 10,000 people to see M. K. Gandhi. The President was K. Natarajan and the speakers Vallabhbhai J. Patel, Jamnalal Bajaj, Swami Anand and Sakinabai Lukmani.

M. K. Gandhi also spoke. He said that constructive work should be vigorously carried on; if Congress failed in obtaining their demands, the nation was free to carry on the fight; nothing would be achieved by arguments alone. Their strength should be increased. He had received numerous letters to the effect that political prisoners were not yet released; that people were arrested and lathis used. He advised them to have patience.

Mrs. Kamalabai Sonawala presented a purse of Rs. 52,465 to Gandhi. Then Jamnalal Bajaj sold by auction a gold Takli which Gandhi had been working on during the meeting. It fetched Rs. 5,000 (bought by Ram Narayan Harchandrai of Bombay). A sandal wood box given to Gandhi by the Chawani leaders was also auctioned for Rs. 1,000.

Panchmahal, March 21—

(5) On March 18, M. K. Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Vallabhbhai J. Patel, Subhash Chandra Bose and others passed through the Frontier Mail for Delhi. About 300 men were present on the platform to receive them.

About 3,000 men and 500 women were present outside the platform at the time of the arrival of the Frontier Mail. M. K. Gandhi and V. J. Patel came on to the platform. V. J. Patel spoke on production of khaddar and peaceful picketting of foreign cloth and liquor shops. M. K. Gandhi did not speak.

(6) *S. B. Sind C.I.D., Karachi, March 24.*—M. K. Gandhi, V. J. Patel, Jawaharlal Nehru, Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, Miraben and an American Journalist, arrived this morning at Malir (two stations from Karachi). The train was 2½ hours late. An hour and a half before the arrival of the train 33 Red Shirts amongst whom were Yag Dutt and two other local people arrived in a bus. Their leaders carried a large black flag while the remainder each carried a small black flag and a truncheon. They forced their way on to the platform and after dispersing the Congress Representatives who had assembled to meet the leaders, took command and shouted slogans of " Down ! Down ! Gandhi-Patel ", " Up ! Up ! Lenin ! "

" Who got Bhagatsingh hanged ? Gandhi", etc. On the arrival of the train they formed themselves into two lines and shouted " Gandhi go back " etc. Some Congress followers formed a cordon round Gandhi but they were again surrounded by the Red Shirts. Yag Dutt was heard inciting the Red Shirts to strike Gandhi and for a moment or two the situation looked grave.

This incident has shaken Congress circles very much as it was unexpected, but from the tone of speeches by Swami Govindanand and others during the last few days it is not a surprise.

S. B. Sind C.I.D., Karachi, March 25.—At about 12-30 p.m. on March 25, seven Nau Juwan Bharat Sabha members, one of whom was Lala Hiranand of Karachi, the rest being from the Punjab, forced their way into the Congress Camp and to Gandhi's quarters. Lala Hiranand shouted out " Where is bloody Gandhi", whereupon Gandhi came out of his hut. He was threatened and one Nau Juwan' raised his lathi. Naraindas Anandji Bechar and Jairamdas Daulatram were also abused. Jawaharlal Nehru intervened and persuaded the Nau Juwans to depart, having been promised them that they would be allowed to interview Gandhi at 7 p.m. At 7 p.m. these persons are said to have returned for their interview but were repulsed by Congress volunteers.

Shouts of " Gandhi-ki-Jai " by the Nau Juwan and Reds, and " Gandhi-ki-Jai" by his followers, were repeated in the camp yesterday.

Page 690, para. 941—

S. B. Sind C.I.D., Karachi, March 26.—At the open meeting held in the Congress Nagar on the evening of March 26, between 30,000 and 40,000 attended. The majority of those present were inhabitants of Sind. The meeting lasted for about 6 p.m. the only speakers being Jawaharlal Nehru and M. K. Gandhi.

The former spoke for only a few minutes apparently to engage the audience till the arrival of Gandhi. He touched on the executions of Bhagatsingh and others that their deaths were a matter of sorrow as well as pride, it was not known how many more Bhagatsingh would have to die before the country obtains freedom. He insisted on complete Independence.

Gandhi arrived amidst much cheering, and Nehru left to attend the All-India Students' Convention, over which he presided. Gandhi's main object was to re-establish himself. He first accused Government for having caused indignation throughout the country by carrying out the execution and that he, Madan Mohan Malaviya and Dr. Sapru had done their utmost to save these persons. He, however, made it clear that Government had in no way violated the Peace Terms by the hanging of these persons. Other incidents he referred to were Borsad and the Cawnpore Riots. He finally appealed to youths to observe non-violence and to abandon hypocrisy. His audience was completely captured by his oratory.

Page 698, para. 962 (3) —

Congress Activity

Extract from the Delhi Secret Abstract, dated March 11, 1931

The bottom has rather fallen out of the Congress world with the Truce announced between His Excellency and Mahatma Gandhi. Meetings have been poorly attended, and picketing, etc., although still peacefully carried on, has lost its savour, and indigent volunteers are beginning to wonder where their livelihood is to come from.

Mahatma Gandhi held a meeting of women in the Purdah Gardens on Sunday 8, attended by some 6 or 7,000 persons, and Mrs. Naidu unfurled the national flag to a small audience on the same day.

Page 718, para. 963 (26)—

Place and date	Auspices	Audience
Dadar, 16th March 1931	Bombay Provincial Congress Committee.	8,000
Esplanade Maidan, 17th March 1931	Bombay Provincial Congress Committee.	200,000
Speakers	Remarks	
M. K. Gandhi	Advised the audience to read the issues of Young India and Navajivan for their enlightenment on the welfare of the workers. Also exhorted the workers to give up vices and stick to non-violence and take to khaddar and swadeshi.	
Pandit J. Nehru, M. K. Gandhi.	M. K. Gandhi gave them a message of peace and asked them to completely boycott foreign cloth, to take to khaddar and swadeshi bring about Hindu-Muslim unity and remove the stigma of untouchability.	

Page 726, para. 971 (6-1)—

Place and date	Auspices	Audience
Parel ,16th March 1931	Bombay Provincial Congress Committee	20,000
Speakers	Remarks	
K. F. Nariman (President), B. T. Kandalkar and Randive repudiated the Delhi agreement. Randive, G. L. Kandalkar, M. K. Gandhi.	M. K. Gandhi explained the circumstances under which the truce was brought about and told the workers that he worked for them long before the communists were born.	

Page 736, para. 976 (5)—

S. B. Sind C.I.D., Karachi, March 25.—A private meeting of the Working Committee was held from 3 to 6 p.m. in the Congress Nagar. The following attended :

M. K. Gandhi, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed Ansari, Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Jairamdas Daulatram, Abbas Tyabji, Dr. Satyapal, J. M. Sen Gupta.

Page 737, para. 976 (7) —

(7) *S. B. Sind C.I.D., Karachi, March 29.*—At 12-30 p.m. at the entrance of the Subjects Committee's Pandal, leaflets were distributed by a Sikh of the Punjab side, a member of the political Prisoners' Release Committee, Chouk Karori, Amritsar. He refused to give his name saying he was doing selfless duty. In the course of conversation with the undersigned he observed that Subhash Chandra Bose did not in his presidential address touch opposition of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact because he is after all a Congressman. He then arranged to send about 350 of these leaflets inside the Subjects Committee's Pandal and these were kept on all the desks of the Congress members. These are entitled " A " call to duty printed at the E. T. Press under the signature of the Political Prisoners' Release Committee, Chouk Karori, Amritsar.

These leaflets hold :

(1) Gandhi-Irwin Pact a sham. (2) Government as tyrannical. (3) Gandhi has been deceived by Lord Irwin. (4) The agreement facilitated Government's task in executing Bhagatsingh. (5) Garwalli soldiers and other detenus are still behind the prison bars. (6) Congress boasting of non-violence should clear and keep the hands off the national movement. (7) Patriots are suffering in jails. (8) Congress duty is to secure their release and to carry on the fight of complete independence to a successful end. (9) Let us be true to India and do our duty.

Gandhi's Resolution on Delhi Pact and Round Table Conference

The following resolution was moved by M. K. Gandhi :

" This Congress having considered the provisional settlement between the Working Committee and the Government of India endorses it and desires to make it clear that the goal of Purna Swaraj (Complete Independence) remains intact. In the event of the way being otherwise open to the Congress to be represented at any conference with the representatives of the British Government, the Congress delegation will work for this goal and in particular, so as to give the nation control over the army, external affairs, finance and fiscal and economic policy, and to have a scrutiny, by an Impartial tribunal of the financial transactions of the British Government in India and to examine

and assess the obligation to be undertaken by India or England and the right to either party to end the partnership at will. Provided, however, that the Congress delegation will be free to accept such adjustments as may be demonstrably necessary in the interests of India.

The Congress appoints and authorises Mahatma Gandhi to represent it at the Conference with the addition of such other delegates as the Working Committee may appoint to act under his leadership."

Gandhi in moving the resolution made long-winded speech in Urdu in which he said Indians could refuse this settlement by all means if they think that Gandhi and the Working Committee had committed a great blunder in bringing it about. At the time of peace negotiations with the Viceroy the Working Committee was present. He used to consult with it on every point. There has been no mistake in the settlement. Congress prestige has not suffered. This was not the sole opinion of the Working Committee. Gandhi could realise his responsibility while negotiating with the Viceroy. Gandhi wishes that by the settlement the prestige of the Congress should still be raised in the estimation of the world.

Explaining the wording of the resolution Gandhi said that Congress goal was Purna Swaraj (Complete Independence) as decided at Lahore. At the time of placing the settlement before the public Gandhi made it clear before the 15-20 pressmen (who asked him) that conditions stipulated in the Round Table Conference did not mean Purna Swaraj. They were in his opinion less than Dominion Status. Gandhi could not think that Congress position would become worse. Congress representatives can demand Purna Swaraj at the next Round Table Conference. An invitation has been given to Indians to discuss and place before the Conference the kind of Swaraj they wanted. It was said that Indians could not do even this much and were unnecessarily fighting in their own way (of Civil Disobedience). Gandhi was astonished to see that although Indian representatives at the Round Table Conference demanded Dominion Status, yet what had been admitted on the other side had been washed away by the condition of safeguards. Hence he felt the necessity of going to the Round Table Conference. In this settlement the right of demand has been accepted. Those who would go to Round Table Conference would go merely to try for the achievement of Complete Independence. Indians have right not to go to the Round Table Conference if Government violates any condition of the settlement. Before going to the Round Table Conference it is incumbent on the Congress to settle Hindu-Muslim problem. It will be a great shame for the Indians and a death-like thing to go to London and ask Government to arbitrate between Hindus and the Muslims. By the terms of the settlements Indians are not compelled to go to Round Table Conference. They are bound to start the civil disobedience. If they think at any stage hereafter that it was not necessary to go to the

Round Table Conference they could by all means do so. The resolution contained the word "partnership". This could be dissolved at any time by any party. The only thing wanted was that complete and implicit reliance and faith shall be reposed in the delegation they would send to the Round Table Conference.

He then touched and fully discussed the amendments that had been placed before the chair on this resolution. The first was that the work of the Indian delegation should be supervised by a special session of the Congress to be held on the delegation's return. Gandhi said that amendment meant that Indians had no reliance on their representatives. Of course the work of the delegation would be subject to the approval of the Congress Working Committee but not that of the special session of the Congress. Indians had every right to repudiate the decision of the delegation at any stage.

Gandhi here replied to the objections raised by Jamnadas Mehta while moving his amendment that the resolution ratifying provisional settlement was inconsistent with the Lahore Resolution. Gandhi explained to him that the word "partnership" in this resolution and the words "severance of all connection with the British" in the Independence resolution of Lahore meant the same thing. This resolution laid down that Indians and the English were partners and the allies. Any one of them could at any time rescind from partnership. So there was no material difference between this resolution and that of Complete Independence passed at Lahore.

Proceeding further he explained what will be the position of the Viceroy under the future constitution of India. He said he will be merely an honorary Viceroy. He will not have bungalows to live and fat salaries to draw, because Gandhi, Vallabhbhai and Jawaharlal, all were working for the elevation of the poor the Bhangis, the depressed classes and the peasantry. They were themselves living in huts and having simple food. How could the Viceroy of the future India enjoy anything beyond what Gandhi and his associates were enjoying? (Laughter by the audience.) He expressed his desire which has been occupying his mind since a long time that at the time of the future constitution of India he would make the Government House at Delhi as the hospital for the peasants and the poor. (Voice : hear, hear.) Gandhi cannot keep hidden in his mind what occurs to him. Englishmen who would like to serve India could by all means come but there would be no room for those who wanted to come to India for the sake of governing its inhabitants. This was the meaning of Gandhi's Swaraj. Gandhi said he would like some of the pressmen sitting here to properly report his speech to the world at large that this was the type of Swaraj that Gandhi wanted. His past career could sufficiently lay down that in matters political he had never betrayed Indian cause and Indians should rest assured that he will not for his personal good or selfishness do anything detrimental to India's interest.

He strongly appealed to the house to withdraw all the amendments in order to save time. Another amendment was that Gandhi should select members of the Indian Delegation. He said, not Gandhi, but the Working Committee over which he could exercise considerable influence had the right to elect delegation for the Round Table Conference. Had Motilal been alive he would have certainly gone with him at the Round Table Conference. All the wording of the resolution had been carefully arranged by the Working Committee and did not need any alteration or modification. The Indian Delegation would deliver the message to the Round Table Conference. If Indians' demand was not conceded the weapon of non-violence was with them intact, which they could use without any let or hindrance. He also appealed to the house not to move any amendment about matters relating to the Indian States. This was a problem concerning the federation. Give some latitude to the Princes who would after all consider the case of their States as Indians. The best policy is to be lenient to them.

He was asked by the audience to speak in English but he stressed the resolution of the All-India Congress passed at Lahore that all the proceedings of the house be carried in Hindustani. Gandhi pitied those who up till now could not even understand Urdu, their mother-tongue. He however said a few words in English explaining his speech on the resolution.

Gandhi closed his speech by giving a warning that the house was free to give any opinion regarding the provisional settlement. They were not at all bound to abide by the dictates of Gandhi.

The resolution was unanimously passed.

Page 742, para. 976 (9), March 27—

There is no change in the situation except perhaps in favour of Mahatma Gandhi. He secured an overwhelming majority at the Subjects Committee deliberations and has practically the whole of India behind him.

The Nau Juwan and Kirti Kisan meeting were poor shows indeed. They interested Punjabis and North-West Frontier Province residents, and Sikhs and Muhammadans were noticed in fairly large numbers. The audiences, besides being very poor, could not be held. In the case of the Nau Juwan Bharat Sabha, one report is that the audience dwindled to half its original number before the end of the Session. The party will do all it can to whip up enthusiasm and its allies will be the Bombay Party that has arrived (and with it the dissemination of Communist literature), and Kishensingh, father of Bhagatsingh, through whom the sympathetic feelings of the public will be juggled with.

Subhash Chandra Bose has found himself too weak, yet one source reports a conversation that took place last night (March 26) about 8 a.m. between him and M. K. Gandhi at a meeting of the Working Committee. Gandhi asked Bose why he (Gandhi) had displeased the Nau Juwans; Bose accused Gandhi of having made a serious blunder over the peace terms and that he was unable to satisfactorily smooth it over in Gandhi's favour with the Youths. He complained of the non-release of Bengal prisoners and declared that there was not going to be a truce, and, if the All-India Congress did not render assistance, the Nau Juwans would fight independently. This may be merely letting off steam.

Page 800, para. 1043 (Resolution No. XV) —

S. B. Sind C.I.D., Karachi, March 31.—All-India Congress Subjects Committee proceedings :

The president then announced that Resolution No. XVI will be moved by Gandhi. Gandhi in moving the following resolution made it clear that it was more or less a memoranda of his eleven points excluding the demand for the abolition of Criminal Investigation Department which was a matter to be decided by the Swaraj Government. Gandhi wanted to enquire if the principle underlying the resolution was acceptable to the house before the problem is discussed and amendments moved. These in favour of the principle should raise their hands. About thirty members showed their hands. Those against numbered only 7 or 8. He said the resolution had not been discussed by the Working Committee but all items had been included in it by Jawaharlal Nehru and himself. Referring to salaries of officials under Swaraj Government, Gandhi quoted from Islamic history the instance of the Caliph Umar who despite being a king earned his livelihood by manual labour. Officials of Swaraj Government will have no right to enjoy or indulge in luxuries. Congress at present was giving Rs. 300 monthly to Rajarao—the highest emolument—not in consideration of his work and his usefulness but from the viewpoint of his necessity. But Gandhi failed to understand why Rajarao had multiplied his needs. He wondered why no tax was being levied on the earning of landlords.

Page 806, para. 1044—

All-India Congress: 45th Sessions of the—

S. B. Sind, March 29.—The second session took place on 30th March 1931. It was attended by 30,000 persons and presided over by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Jawaharlal Nehru moved the resolution regarding Congress participation in the Round Table Conference. He asked the people to waive aside scepticism and give M. K. Gandhi a chance to secure his demands through the Round Table Conference. He told them that Congress was alive to its responsibility for obtaining Complete Independence.

Dr. Mukhtar Ahmad Ansari of Delhi seconded the resolution and claimed that despite the opinions of pessimists, Congress had up to now been eminently successful under Gandhi.

M. K. Gandhi also spoke. He told the meeting that though he was not given to optimism yet it was useless to be faint-hearted. It was their business to explore every non-violent avenue in their quest for Independence. If the worst came to the worst, they would not lose anything. He hinted that if the opposition were really sincere, they were welcome to assume control of affairs.

Put to the vote the original resolution was passed by an overwhelming majority.

Appreciations—

S. B. Sind C.I.D., Karachi, March 29.—There is little to add. The 45th Indian National Congress is to all intents and purposes over. Gandhi will now prepare for the Round Table Conference. He has the choosing of the Congress Members for it and will no doubt select a body that will be quite content to nod their heads to all he says. He appears to have no intention of losing control over his army of volunteers and has sufficient funds to keep it in his pay if he decides to retain it by payment. He will now have to make an appeal to the minorities and it is quite possible that he will direct his activities between now and the Round Table Conference to appeasing Muhammadans, Sikhs and other minor communities. Those last I fancy will be easy prey. They have no option but to seek refuge wherever it can be found. He has already expressed his interest in Native States and we may find Congress forces in these increasing.

Will he try to win the Muhammadans and Sikhs with promises of all kinds ? May be ! He has won the main opposition in the Congress with promises. On the other hand he may be content with what he considers is fair. We must wait and see, but Gandhi is, in public opinion, the man with the British Government at his feet.

Page 831, para. 1101—

From the Delhi Secret Abstract, dated March 28, 1931

The following individuals came to notice in Delhi :

Names	Date and place of arrival	Date and place of departure	
Gandhi, M. K.	--	23rd March 1931	Karachi
Kasturi Bai (Mrs. Gandhi)	--	Do.	do.
Mira Bai (Miss Slade)	--	Do.	do.
Devi Dass Gandhi	--	Do.	do.
Madan Mohan Malaviya	--	Do.	do.
Mahadeo Desai	--	Do.	do.
Gobind Kant Malaviya	--	Do.	do.
Vallabhbhai Patel (Sardar)	--	Do.	do.
Jamnalal Bajaj	--	Do.	do.
Jawaharlal Nehru (Pandit)	--	Do.	do.
Parbati Devi	--	Do.	do.
Kharak Bahadur Singh	23rd March 1931, Allahabad.	Do.	do.
Abdul Rab, Editor, Bombay	Bombay Chronicle	Do.	do.
Hassan Nizami, Khuwaja	--	Do.	do.
23rd March 1931 Ahmedabad			

Pages 831-32, para. 1104, April 1—

S. B. Sind C. I. D., Karachi.—M. K. Gandhi has not wasted any time in getting to work. He has addressed the Parsis and Muslims in Karachi. Although he attracted an appreciable audience at the meeting of the former, he has left them a bit sceptical by asking this Community to abandon one of its chief sources of livelihood, tapping toddy. He has impressed the Muslim Community to a certain extent, mainly through his Muslim lieutenants, and much depends now on the organisation that is left to carry on, whether a substantial following is secured for him.

In his speech at the Jamiat-ul-Ulema meeting, M. K. Gandhi betrayed himself to a slight extent as a Hindu first and an Indian afterwards. He promised the separation of Sind, etc., but asked Muslims to be patient to win the goodwill of Hindus. It is evident that he has never troubled to go into the causes of communal riots in Sind ; but has presumed that the Muslims have been in the wrong all along. The Pathans have been greatly impressed by Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, and if their enthusiasm continues, they would be a very effective weapon in the programme of boycott. He is going to Bombay where he will, as he did here, preach sedition, as M. K. Gandhi would put it, help to bring about Hindu-Muslim unity. Gandhi is to attend the All-Muslim Parties Conference at Delhi.

It is rumoured that Subhash Chandra Bose is disgruntled at not obtaining appointment on the All-India Working Committee. Here again, the selection was entirely that of Gandhi. He caused consternation in the ranks of the Working Committee when he announced that none of them would be representatives at the Round Table Conference.

Page 837, para. 1108 (3) —

Extract from the Delhi Secret Abstract, dated March 21, 1931

Mahatma Gandhi met a deputation of some 500 peasants of Meerut District and the Delhi Province at the bungalow of Dr. Ansari on 19th March 1931, who asked him to get their land revenue remitted. Mahatma Gandhi's reply was to ask them to unite, to form Congress Committees, and to temporarily tolerate the oppression of the police and land revenue authorities, until such time as their affairs could be settled by the Congress. The news of the refusal to reprieve Bhagatsingh, etc., was celebrated in the city by a mass meeting of the N. B. S. on 20th March 1931.

A deputation of members of the N. B. S. waited on Gandhi on 20th March 1931 to ask him to obtain the reprieve of Bhagatsingh, but got the reply, that all that could be done had been done. The deputation was very dissatisfied with this answer.

Page 839, para. 1109—

Karachi, April 4.—During the week the attention of all the local workers was engaged in the Congress, which is considered to have been a great success for Gandhi. The speeches of Gandhi on March 26, the attitude of S. C. Bose, Kishinsingh, the father of Bhagatsingh, and Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan of Peshawar, all cleared, the Path for Gandhi and contributed towards his success. It is generally felt that Gandhi will give in at the Round Table Conference and will be satisfied with what he gets. It is however considered that the settlement of the communal question will be a great hindrance for him and he might have to leave it to the Round Table Conference to decide.

Date.—1st April 1931.

Place.—Jehangir Rajkot Wall Baugh.

Attendance.—1,800.

Remarks.—Held by the Parsi Rajkiya Mandal to hear Gandhi, Vallabhbhai Patel, and Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, R. K. Sidhva presided. Gandhi appreciated the work done by the Mandal and R. K. Sidhva. He further exhorted them to wear khadi and to play the Takli.

Page 840, para. 1109 (1)—

Date.—2nd April 1931.

Place.—Khalikdina Hall.

Attendance.—100 later on 300.

Remarks.—Desh Shevak Mandal Anniversary celebrations. Gandhi presided. The admission was by special invitations. Dr. Choithram P. Gidwani and Jairamdas Daulatram Alimchandani spoke on the working of the Mandal which was formed in 1924 to maintain whole-time political workers and which was run on the lines of the " Servants of People Society " since 1928. In all Rs. 44,500 were collected, out of which Rs. 17,000 were invested in the Bharat Press and Rs. 12,500 were paid to the families and dependents of 40 workers and members who went to jail. Gandhi hoped that the activities of the Mandal workers would be further extended to villages. He felt every honest worker should not hesitate to draw some maintenance allowance if he devoted his entire time to national work. He appealed to youths to join the Mandal and to gain training for public service. By which they would be receiving real and practical education. Jairamdas Naumal and the daughter of Tejumal, Pleader, subscribed Rs. 101 and 15 guineas respectively towards the Mandal.

Pages 862-63, para. 1122, April 4—

The anniversary of the Gujarat Vidyapith (National University) will be celebrated from April 11 to 13 and a " Gramya Seva Sammelan " (meeting of those who have worked in rural areas during the past ten years) will be held. The following matters are included in the agenda :

- (a) (i) Indebtedness of farmers and means of alleviating their distress ;
 - (ii) The position of capitalist ;
 - (iii) Review of work done by co-operative societies.
- (b) (i) Progress of khaddar ;
 - (ii) Importance of the spinning-wheel to farmers ;
 - (iii) Industries likely to benefit the farmers.
- (c) Methods employed in agriculture and measures to increase production.

- (d) Live-stock; necessity of milch cattle; cow-protection; improvements in cattle-breeding.
- (e) Rules relating to Land Revenue and its burden on the peasantry ; postponement and exemption of land revenue, tagavi; collection of land revenue in cash.
- (f) Relations between urban and rural areas including trade.
- (g) Village finance; loss suffered by farmers on account of cash transaction.
- (h) Villages to be self-supporting.
- (i) The peasantry should be strongly represented in the new administration of the country.
- (j) Swaraj in villages; appointment of "Gram Panchas"; backward classes and untouchables to have a voice in all matters.
- (k) Scope of village "Panchas" and their authority as distinct from that of Central and Provincial Governments.
- (l) Education in rural areas.
- (m) Sanitation and health of villages.

M. K. Gandhi will address the students of the Vidyapith on this occasion.

April 11.—Four hundred men and 100 women attended the Gujarat Vidyapith convocation on April 12 when speeches were made by M. K. Gandhi and D. B. Kalelkar.

D. B. Kalelkar said the function was held under extraordinary circumstances. Though the students were interrupted because they and their teachers had joined the Civil Disobedience movement, the former had learnt real lessons and these deserving should be given medals and diplomas.

Narhari Dwarkadas Parikh read out the report for the year 1930-31 on the management and expenditure of the Vidyapith. It also embodies the names of persons of the Vidyapith who had been sent to jail during the struggle.

About 13 students who were made to take a vow to follow the path of non-violence and truth were given diplomas by Gandhi who blessed them. M. K. Gandhi told them to be proud of their diplomas and to adhere to their pledge. He told them there was a difference between a Snatak (Graduate) and a Gram Seva Dixit (volunteer for village propaganda) ; the latter surpasses the former though the former had studied more. He was in need of volunteers for village to carry on propaganda through the Vidyapith. " After my arrest at Karadi I read about the sacrifices and I was glad that every student and tutor had plunged into the struggle. We had a programme of boycotting Government schools in 1920, and now you can

realise its importance. However, there are certain students eager to join Government schools and colleges though they are forced to apologise or to pay the fine. The school authorities made enquiries before admitting them as to whether they took any part in the political movement. You all know about the Government policy adopted in connection with the Hindu University at Benares. I know Malaviyaji fully well. He was prepared to face any sacrifice, but luckily Government continued the grant." Continuing he said that the public should help the Vidyapith with money and that money should be used sparingly by the Vidyapith. " I will not give you details of the Congress, but I will tell you one thing that Pandit Jawaharlal has proposed that the salary of the Viceroy in Swaraj time will be Rs. 500 and you must judge for yourself accordingly and try to lead a simple life."

Page 877, para. 1161—

Ahmedabad, April 11.—Mrs. Kasturba M. Gandhi came to Ahmedabad with M. K. Gandhi from Delhi on April 9.

C. Rajgopalacharya came to Ahmedabad with M. K. Gandhi from Delhi on April 10.

Mahadev Haribhai Desai returned to Ahmedabad *via* Delhi from Karachi on April 10.

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi came to Ahmedabad *via* Amritsar and Delhi from Karachi on April 10 to attend the convocation of Gujarat Vidyapith.

Page 878, para. 1162—

Ahmedabad, April 21.—M. K. Gandhi has decided to take up his residence at the Ashram at Bardoli and will leave Ahmedabad either to-night or to-morrow night.

Page 887, para. 1183—

From the " Punjab " Secret Abstract, dated April 11, 1931

Mr. Gandhi's visit to Amritsar was, on the whole, a fiasco. Huge and excited, but on the whole good tempered, crowds turned out to see him at the Railway Station, but, as soon as he could be rescued from their attention he went to ground from the day on the plea of fatigue and fever. He departed in the evening by road and took the train at a wayside station; he was perhaps not unrelieved at evading the necessity of a public pronouncement on Sikh questions and the position to which he has brought the cloth trade.

Page 889, para. 1184 (6) —

Ahmedabad, April 15.—A meeting, attended by 100 students, past and present, was held at the Vidyapith on April 13. M. K. Gandhi sent them a message complimenting them on their efforts and sacrifices in the Civil Disobedience movement and he cautioned them that they were marshalled on the side of non-violence and truth. Dattatraya Balkrishna Kalelkar, replying on behalf of the students, said that they were ever ready to plunge into the fray, and would always try to prevent violence. C. Rajgopalacharya addressed the meeting and compared the Vidyapith and the Ashram to Sandhurst.

Page 920, para. 1235—

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi left Ahmedabad for Bombay on April 15, 1931, to see His Excellency Lord Irwin.

Page 969, para. 1319—

Ahmedabad, April 25.—Pyarelal Bindrabin, Secretary to M. K. Gandhi, came to Ahmedabad on April 19 from Bombay to attend the marriage of a girl of the Ashram. Left Ahmedabad with M. K. Gandhi for Bardoli on April 21 to see the peasants.

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi came to Ahmedabad from Bombay on April 19 to attend the marriage ceremony of a girl of the Ashram; left Ahmedabad for Bardoli on April 21 to see peasants.

Page 971, para. 1324 (1)—April 25—

Surat.—Gandhi has transferred his headquarters from the Sabarmati Ashram to Bardoli Ashram. The following persons are staying with him at Bardoli :

1. Gandhi Mrs. Kasturba. 2. Mahadev Haribhai Desai. 3. Mirabai, 4. V. J. Patel. 5. Jairamdas Daulatram. 6. Miss Maniben V. Patel. 7. Mohanlal Kameshwar Pandya. 8. Devidas Mohandas Gandhi. 9. Surendraprasad Madras. 10. Keshav Ganesh Deshpande. 11. Khushal Morar. 12. Jugatram Dave. 13. Laxmidas Purshottamdas. 14. Chunilal Sankleshwar.

Gandhi came to Bardoli on April 22 and Vallabhbhai Patel came there on April 24. Gandhi does not deliver lectures, but is busy in the investigation of complaints of the farmers whose lands are sold to third party and the Police Patels and Talathis who resigned during the Civil Disobedience movement and are not re-employed.

It is learnt that Bardoli Ashram collected Rs. 21,000 which will be utilised to compensate the loss suffered by the migrators. Some amounts from the fund have already been distributed amongst the farmers of Akoti village. Gandhi is busy in investigating frauds committed by certain Civil Disobedience workers in connection with the Astan Ashram which was

temporarily opened in Baroda State, and three of them were dismissed. It is learnt that Gandhi regards the expenditure as being to extravagant for the present needs and much time is being devoted to the subject of retrenchment. Gandhi assures the villagers that he and Vallabhbhai will try their best to induce the new owners of the confiscated lands to return them to the original owners.

At the village of Babla, Gandhi held a meeting on April 25 of Kunbis and inquired into the conduct of the villagers complained of by Sardar Garda. Vallabhbhai Patel was also present. They denied having stolen the crops from the lands purchased by Garda and denied having obstructed Sardar Garda's men. Gandhi told them that as Satyagrahis they should behave peacefully, suffer all hardships, should not feel the loss of their lands and should never be angry with their opponents. The villagers came out as Satyagrahis and now they should not think of the loss they suffered.

Vallabhbhai complained that the Police ask the cultivators of Babla to produce a Talati's chit to enter their fields and without it the Police would not allow them to enter the fields, etc. If the cultivators forget to obtain chits the Police asked them to get chits. Gandhi said that the Police did their duty, the farmers must take the pass with them to avoid trouble. The Deputy Superintendent of Police, Bardoli, reports that there is no truth in this allegation.

Gandhi examined the expenses of the Bardoli Ashram and made retrenchment by dismissing a number of paid workers and allowing the use of motors very sparingly.

Vallabhbhai Patel visits two villages every day and holds village meetings. His camp is at Bardoli.

Page 972, para. 1324 (2)—May 1—

Surat.—The following is a summary of the manner in which Gandhi, Vallabhbhai Patel, and other leading Congress workers made enquiries regarding the ability of the villagers to pay land revenue or not at Akoti on April 26.

On April 26 Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Patel accompanied by Jairamdas Daulatram, Miss Maniben Patel, Khushal Morar, Devidas Gandhi, Keshav Ganesh, Mrs. K. Gandhi and one Professor Chinoy of Tagore Shantiniketan Bolpur College, near Calcutta, and is said to be an Editor of a Rangoon paper, visited Akoti village in the evening.

Mohanlal Kameshwar Pandya, Udhao Khusal, Prema Mauji and Chitta Megha sojourned in the village prior to the arrival of the more important leaders to prevail on the villagers and generally prepare the ground for their activities.

Vallabhbhai, Jairamdas and Miss Maniben arrived in advance of Gandhi and party and secretly interviewed a number of Kunbis in the house of Udhao Khusal. After these secret discussions a meeting was held in front of the house of Lallu Prema Kunbi. Prema Mauji read out the account of the Civil Disobedience work done by the Akoti villagers as already prepared for them by Mohanlal Kameshwar Pandya and Co. After this, Vallabhbhai Patel addressed the gathering in his usual style, saying he had learnt that Babla and Akoti villages had suffered the most during the last struggle, and that Gandhi and himself had decided to pay a visit to console and bless them. He told them that cultivators had such unity and power that nobody could stand against them, and he was delighted with their bravery in the last fight. He pointed out it was the duty of a farmer to oppose unjust laws. He sympathised with them for their losses and told them they would get money to compensate them from M. K. Pandya if they would ask him.

He said the question of payment of land revenue rests with Gandhi. If he says nobody should pay, you should not pay. To fight and to make you fight is my duty. If Gandhi tells you not to pay, then Government will do attachment work, and the Mamlatdar and Police will take away your property. When we have to fight we should not care for anything. We should act in such a way that the fire which will be kindled in Akoti will be spread all over India. As regards the opinion of land revenue my opinion is different from that of Gandhi, because I am a farmer. I will agree with whatever Gandhi will say and you should also follow him. He referred to the sufferings of the people of Ras, and said that when Gandhi told them, that they should not pay a pie, they had not done so. The time for your test is coming. Within one year you will see wonderful results of your sufferings. Without justice we should not pay a single pie.

People have come to know that the people of Bardoli have not got guns, bullets, or bombs, etc., and that they have not cared for the bullets, bombs, etc., of this powerful Government.

At this stage Gandhi arrived and Vallabhbhai ceased his harangue and informed Gandhi that he had ascertained the extent of suffering and the needs of the villagers, etc.

Gandhi asked the villagers if they had anything to say and a number of them told him that they had no money to pay land revenue and asked what was to be done. In reply Gandhi asked them if they read the Navjivan or not, from that they would know what should be done.

Chhita Megha (who had been coached by Pandya) then explained that 4,000 haras of paddy crop had been sold by Government and not a grain was left for them, even the straw had been removed from the village, etc., etc., according to plan. Gandhi replied if this is the situation, automatically

I have to say nothing but to advise you not to pay. I request you that those who have got money should pay up.

I will carry on correspondence with Government authorities and put your case before them. If they consider your case, well and good, or else you should be prepared against attachments and harassments, etc. When you have not got anything what is Government going to take from you ? Once again I tell you that you should not deceive your leaders. If you are in a position to pay, you should quietly pay up. We have made truce on condition that those who are able to pay will pay up and those who have not got money should get time to do so.

Chitta Megha again said I have got to pay Rs. 140. I have got 15 bigas of land at Kansad, the rest in Akoti. I have suffered great loss and hence I have no money to pay up. Such is the case with other persons also. Gandhi asked what was the amount of land revenue to be paid to Government. Chitta Megha answered about Rs. 15,000; about Rs. 7,000 of this year and Rs. 8,000 of last year including that of damage by frost.

Gandhi put further questions to Chitta Megha and received various replies from him.

Afterwards, Gandhi asked whether what Chitta Megha had said was correct. It is significant that no one gave a reply.

There was a good deal of murmuring amongst the villagers over Chitta Megha having placed the villagers in an awkward position and some of them rebuked him for it afterwards.

It is significant—

1. That the villagers are usually coached what to say beforehand by such unscrupulous workers as Mohanlal Kameshwar Pandya assisted by local agitators ;

2. That Vallabhbhai Patel usually " Vets " these arrangements and is afforded time to " suitably " harangue the people before Gandhi arrives in the meeting ; and

3. After Gandhi has told them not to pay land revenue in the circumstances (which he must know have been exaggerated) he states, " Once again I tell you that you should not deceive your leaders." It would be more appropriate if he told the leaders to stop deceiving the people, and if both he and Vallabhbhai would only try and stop deceiving themselves.

Page 1022, para. 1430—

Kaira, May 2.—The chief incident of the week has been Gandhi's visit to Borsad, accompanied by his two sons (Ramdas and Haridas), his wife, Secretary

(Mahadev Desai and Miraben). His visit synchronised with the Collector's and a " conversation " was held over the question of restoration of lands and reinstatement of village officials, particularly at Ras. The Deputy Superintendent of Police gathers that any interpretations of the truce terms contrary to Congress' own views were strongly condemned, and that conditions in one case could not be held as generally applying to another of a similar nature. As an example, a village official who had been slapped when doing his duty could be apologised to, according to Gandhi, but a man who had purchased confiscated lands and had been half-killed through contact with a peaceful Congress Dharia had no claim to compensation or any other consideration. No speeches were made, although it is understood that Mr. Gandhi gave a series of his usual cryptic remarks for the talkies. He has however been seeing plenty of local Congressites *in camera*.

Page 1057, para. 1482—

From the Delhi Secret Abstract, dated April 4 and 11, 1931

The attention of both communities has been rivetted to the " All-India Muslim Conference", and the meeting between that body and Mahatma Gandhi. It is, I think, unnecessary to enlarge on the subject in this report, since it has been already fully reported in the Press; suffice it to say that up to date no decision has been arrived at, the Conference standing out for separate electorates, and Muslim rights, as laid down by M. A. Jinnah and Mahatma Gandhi speciously saying that he is willing to give Muslims what they ask, provided that they are unanimous; but knowing full well that unanimity can never be achieved so long as he holds the Jamiat Moulvis in his hand, and contributes to their funds.

Page 1061, para. 1493—

Ahmedabad, May 2.—A weekly entitled " Swadeshi and Boycott" commenced publication on April 30. The editor is Ramnarayan Vishwanath Pathak and the publisher Jivanlal Kalidas Champaneria both of whom work under the guidance of the Gujarat Prantik Samiti. The paper is printed at the Aditya Printing Press, Raikhad, and the office is located in Madalpur, Ahmedabad. The first issue contains a message from M. K. Gandhi, which runs as follows :

" The Editor must bear in mind that during the truce there is no boycott of British goods, but of goods of foreign manufacture at places where swadeshi articles are obtainable. Attention should be concentrated on foreign cloth and yarn. Khaddar (hand-spun and hand-woven) is the only means of effecting complete boycott, but cloth produced by Indian mills should not be subjected to boycott and may be used by those who have not heard the message of ' Khaddar'. No true Congressite, however is permitted to use such material.

Toddy, liquor and other intoxicants should be boycotted also.

Peaceful picketting will bring matters to a successful issue, and no other form of picketting should be reported to." .

The object of the paper is to promote the sale of swadesi articles— particularly khaddar—and to strengthen the present campaign. It is sold, it is reported, at three pies per copy.

Page 1072, para. 1522—

Kaira, May 9.—M. K. Gandhi has been in Borsad Taluka the whole week; but, except for the opening of the institution at Bochasan, has not functioned publicly. He has, on the whole, seized the opportunity for a quiet rest.

Page 1084, para. 1544 (7)—

Kaira, May 9.—At Bochasan on May 6, a meeting of 2,000 persons was held under the presidency of M. K. Gandhi at the opening of the Vidyalaya. Narharilal Dwarkadas Parekh was the speaker. Education will be given to boys, particularly from 17 to 25 years of age and residents of the village will also be taught, and there will be reading of books in the Vidyalaya by village people. Gandhi named the Vidyalaya " Vallabh Vidyalaya", and thanked all who had contributed towards it. He further added that the Vidyalaya was opened to do away with the difference between the high and low classes. Swaraj will be for every class—Baniyas, Patidars, Dharalas, etc. He advised use of khaddar and the removal of the habit of liquor drinking, and bringing about of unity. M. K. Gandhi also laid special stress on all being equal under Swaraj. He specially appealed to Dharalas to give up their feud with Patidars. This special appeal is not without interest, as the Dharalas kept aloof, as a class, from the Civil Disobedience movement, although using it as a cover for their predatory instincts. Several of them bought lands and others were appointed Patels. The former have been induced to return their lands, and the latter have had to give way to make room for the permanent incumbents who had resigned. It is feared that they (the Dharalas) will go over to the Congress in the next struggle which Congress is clearly preparing for.

Page 1117, para. 1594—May 2—

Hyderabad.—The *Hindu* of April 28 under the headings " Mahatma's consideration (sic) to resume Satyagraha ", " Government's evasion of Truce Terms " and " Government's futile Blame on Congress ", while commencing on the interview of M. K. Gandhi and Mr. Emerson writes :

" On hearing the views of Mr. Emerson, Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Vallabhbhai J. Patel are considering whether they should restart the Civil Disobedience movement in view of the fact that Government is not abiding by the terms of truce."

Page 1130, para. 1628—

Kaira, May 16.—Jamnalal Bajaj came to Borsad to see Gandhi on May 7 and returned the same day.

Vallabhbhai J. Patel and Jairamdas Daulatram came to Borsad on May 11— the former returned to Bardoli the same night, and the latter went to Baroda together with Miraben (Miss Slade), Pyarelal, Devidas Gandhi, M. K. Gandhi, Kasturba Gandhi, Mahadev Haribhai Desai and Ravishankar Shivshankar Vyas all on the night of May 11. M. K. Gandhi was *en route* to Simla.

Page 1142, para. 1647 (11-A)—

Surat, May 16.—It is learnt that Mr. Gandhi has written a letter to the Congress workers at Bardoli to the effect that he is satisfied that Sardar Garda has been subjected to unnecessary harassment and, in the circumstances, he is not disposed to press Sardar Garda to return the lands purchased by him.

Page 1189, para. 1738—June 13—

Poona.—Congress activities are directed towards increasing its membership and collecting funds in case of a future struggle. Mr. Gandhi himself would appear desirous of avoiding this and believes in the good faith of the Government of India.

In *Young India* dated June 4 he replies to a correspondent who writes on behalf of the " Youth of India " expressing doubts as to whether there is any hope of attaining independence through Congress participation in the Round Table Conference. The young critic concludes " We honestly wonder, whether it is not high time for us to present a united front, and if necessary to wade through a pool of blood, of course pursuing the creed of nonviolence, to attain our one goal and that for now and for ever."

To this Mr. Gandhi replied " The Central Government is anxious to implement the Settlement as I know the Congress is. And so long as that condition persists, there is no danger of a breakdown. Beyond this the public will not expect me to go, whilst the very delicate instrument is being worked and kept in tune.

As to the Settlement itself, I have no doubt whatsoever that the Congress would have put itself in the wrong if it had not entered upon it. And it was certainly patriotic on the part of Sjt. Subhash Chandra Bose and the young men who were behind him to have withdrawn their opposition and given their support to the Settlement Resolution at Karachi. The Karachi Congress did not lower the Independence flag. The Congress mandate is clear on the point.

Whether the Congress will be able to make good its position at the Round Table Conference I do not know. But I do know that it would be wrong for the Congress to avoid the Conference for fear of rejection of its demands. The Conference is one way of showing the absolute justice of the national demand. It would have been foolish for the Congress to refuse participation when it was open to it to press its full demand without reservation."

" Therefore I should not hesitate to go to London and attend the Conference if I found that I could safely go. My difficulty is fundamental and well known. I should not have the self-confidence to present the Congress case, if we could not set our own house in order by attaining a solution of the communal problem. But I am waiting, watching and praying."

It appears from speeches made by them that some of the leaders including Jawaharlal Nehru and Vallabhbhai J. Patel would welcome the renewal of the fray, against the more moderate desires of Mr. Gandhi. The final decision will be apparent after the Working Committee meeting now taking place in Bombay.

One fact that emerges is that a good deal of money is still necessary for propaganda, and has been so spent in the past, particularly in Gujarat. It is doubtful, however, whether funds will be as freely available in the future. Volunteers are not being kept on and are being encouraged to live by their own efforts in the villages at present. Several districts report the presence of wandering volunteers, who are often hard put to earn their livelihood through agitation in these times of truce.

A meeting of the Gujarat Prantic Samiti was held at Bardoli on May 28 when about 100 members from Surat, Broach, Kaira, Panch Mahals and Ahmedabad were present. Mr. Gandhi complained against the extravagant expenditure hitherto incurred on volunteers, motors, etc. An expenditure of four lakhs was shown on 1930-31. Ultimately it was decided to sanction two lakhs for the future programme, the amount for each district being collected proportionately. This large decrease of expenditure has not proved popular among local Congress leaders who have grown used to more lavish scales of expenditure.

Subhash Chandra Bose paid a visit to Gandhi at Bardoli on May 27. He spoke to an audience of 1,500 at Bhadra, Ahmedabad District, on May 26 and paid lip-service to Gandhi's policy and strongly defended his own attitude in supporting Gandhi at the Karachi Congress. He also warned the audience that " there is every possibility of reviving the fight if our demands are rejected at the Round Table Conference."

It will be interesting to see the outcome of his quarrel with Sen Gupta which has been referred to the Congress Working Committee. Neither of these two warring Bengal leaders can, at heart, be considered a strong believer in the efficacy of non-violence. At any rate the past history of both of them is against this assumption. In view of this, their presence in propaganda tours in this Presidency is ominous.

Page 1217, para. 1758 (2)—May 23—

Kaira—Non-co-operators of Ras and Gorva villages, under Kathana Police Station, are reported to be arranging to dispose of their property in Baroda jurisdiction. The former village is proving recalcitrant over the payment of land revenue. It is learnt that the sum which M. K. Gandhi has named as being equitably recoverable from the village is very small in proportion to the outstandings. It seems that villagers have made up their minds not to pay at all. Fearing attachments, which have been threatened, they are, therefore hurriedly disposing of their property. In the case of Gorva, it will be remembered that no rents have been paid to the owner, the Thakore of Dehwan, for two years. M. K. Gandhi promised to arrange this satisfactorily if the Thakore gave back the confiscated lands he had purchased. The Thakore gave back the lands, but M. K. Gandhi's promise has not materialised.

Page 1228, para. 1797—

Surat, May 30.—Father Verrior Elwin of the Christa Seva Sangha, who wore khaddar, came to see Gandhi on May 28.

Page 1239, para. 1830—

Extract from the Bihar and Orissa Secret Abstract, dated May 31, 1931

Mr. Gandhi visited Naini Tal and interviewed His Excellency the Governor. He addressed a large meeting on May 19, and a smaller meeting on May 21. His remarks were unexceptionable.

Page 1242, para. 1831—

Surat, May 30.—Bardoli—M. K. Gandhi, Vallabhbhai Patel, Jivatram B. Kirpalani, Devidas Mohandas Gandhi and party returned to Bardoli on May 25. It is learnt that Vallabhbhai Patel had wired to Gandhi requesting him to come to Bardoli. Vallabhbhai Patel is rather uneasy about the situation from the Congress point of view.

After representing to the Collector on behalf of the cultivators, that they were unable to pay anything more than the current year's land revenue, events since have shown that many of them are able to pay and have done so.

The vernacular press published veiled inferences that the Revenue Authorities were resorting to coercive measure for recovery of land revenue and all manner of rumours were set a foot to the effect that the District officers generally were not observing the spirit of the truce terms.

The correspondent of the Free Press and other Journalists who rushed to Bardoli were surprised to find there was nothing sensational for them to report. The truth of the matter is Vallabhbhai Patel's reputation had to be guarded and to this end Congress workers were despatched to a number of villages and did their utmost to persuade and prevent the cultivators from paying up arrears of land revenue as well as the current year's dues, because Vallabhbhai Patel had told the Collector that they were only in a position to pay the current year's land revenue. In this connection the following incident is worthy of note.

The people of Sikkar were anxious to avail themselves of Sir Purshottamdas scheme to have a school in their village, so in order to obtain the necessary plot of land for the building. They decided to pay up all land revenue in full. Ranchhod Madhav (a non-co-operator leader) exerted himself to this end and the Kunbis were eager to pay up in full. But subsequently for reasons given above the Ashram leaders brought their influence to bear and payments ceased abruptly, urging moreover that when Ashrams are provided, why should schools be encouraged in their villages ?

Congress workers still continue to show sympathy to those who went on hijrat to the detriment of those who were loyal and remained behind.

The Police Patel of Akoti, Govan Rama, sends in a petition dated May 24, containing the following grievances :

That he is boycotted by the Akoti Kunbis and the barber, etc. His father who lives at Bajipura is subjected to similar treatment and those who formerly cultivated his land now refuse to do so. Although he has been living for the last 10 years in a house which he built on rented land, the owner of the land has given him notice to vacate the land, and the local Kunbis instigated the village Dhed and Vethias not to do any work for him.

This Patel has served Government throughout the movement and rendered good loyal service.

Dadabhai Ginvala of Bardoli, Ishwerlal Ginvala of Jalalpore and Virchand Seth of Bajipura went to Buhari and sent for Abu Ibrahim to meet them at the house of Seth Hirachand. He refused to meet them. The party then went to Abu Ibrahim's house and begged of him to return the Kumbhia lands on any conditions he liked. Ibrahim told them to go away and made it clear that he would never return the land.

Meanwhile Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Patel and Congress leaders are making all possible enquiries to gather material to show that the notices issued for recovery of land revenue are unduly harsh and contrary to the truce terms. With regard to their efforts to restore the forfeited land to the original containing the following grievances :

Mohanlal K. Pandya and Keshav Ganesh solicited the assistance of one Madhusudan Vallabhdas of Mandvi, and went to Goddha village to try and persuade the Police Patel, Bawa Bhagwandas Laxman, to withdraw his complaint lodged against several Congress workers under sections 506 and 385, I.P.C., which was lodged as a result of the Congress workers trying to force him to resign through criminal intimidation, boycott and imposing a fine, etc.

The Patel refused to negotiate with them and the case is proceeding in the court of the First Class Magistrate, Valod.

Page 1252, para. 1832 (11)—May 30—

Surat.—The postponed meeting of the Gujarat Prantik Samiti was held at Bardoli on May 28. About 100 members from Surat, Broach, Kaira, Panch Mahals and Ahmedabad were present.

As Vallabhbhai Patel was against the sanctioning of 4 lakhs for expenditure he tendered his resignation as President of the Prantik Samiti and suggested that the committee should elect another President from among their own members.

Gandhi complained against the extravagant expenditure on motors, pay of volunteers and " miscellaneous " expenditure, etc. He contended that the expenditure of 4 lakhs as shown for 1930-31 was too much.

Ultimately it was decided to sanction 2 lakhs, the amount for each district being collected proportionately for expenses as the Prantik Samiti is short of funds. The President is to inspect the accounts from time to time. An agreement having been arrived at, Vallabhbhai Patel was again elected President of the Prantik Samiti and a resolution passed and recorded to this effect.

A constitutional committee was also appointed with Bhogilal Lala, B.A., LL.B., and Balwantrao Thakore of Ahmedabad as the principal leaders of the committee. This committee will receive instructions from the Congress and see that they are properly interpreted, passed on, and carried out.

Gandhi advised all to act according to truce terms, and said that Chhavis established in each district should be continued, propaganda of khadi developed and the instructions issued in the " Navjivan " regarding picketing of liquor and toddy and foreign cloth should be carried out.

The members were also reminded that the truce was not a permanent one and therefore preparations for resuming the fight should continue and all should remain ready.

Generally the sum total of the proceedings were to the effect that the agitation should be carried on, funds collected and preparations made, while preparing to resume the fight to set up a parallel administration.

Sir Prabhashanker D. Pattani was present at the meeting.

Page 1284, para. 1912 (1) —

Surat, June 6.—Abdul Gaffar Khan, the "Frontier Gandhi" arrived at Bardoli in the evening of June 6 from Bhusaval side, after staying a couple of days at Bhopal, where he discussed the Hindu-Muslim question with the Nawab of Bhopal, Shaukat Ali, Dr. Ansari and others. He was received at the Railway Station by V. J. Patel and Daulatram J. Alimchandani and put up at the Bardoli Ashram with Gandhi.

Page 1286, para. 1913 (3) —

Surat, June 9.—Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru arrived at Bardoli on June 8 by the morning train and was met at the Railway Station by Mahadev H. Desai who accompanied him to the Ashram where he met and conferred with M. K. Gandhi.

Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and party left for Bombay by the 8-Up Passenger train the same night (8th June).

Page 1329, para. 1956—June 6—

Broach.—Land revenue is being slowly recovered by means of distress-warrants in the villages under Kavi Police Station.

(2) *Surat, June 6.*—During the week Mahadev H. Desai and Father Elwin have been busily engaged visiting villages preparing a case as to the ability or otherwise of the Kunbis to pay land revenue.

The following villages were visited : Akoti, Bamne, Haripura, Para, Puni, Sarbhon, Jamania Manekpur and others.

The District Superintendent of Police remarks that the faithfully supported Vallabhbhai Patel's scheme, by reporting that those who have paid cannot pay more than one year's dues, etc. M. K. Gandhi has rounded off the scheme by writing to the Collector practically to this effect.

Surat, June 6.—The Congress workers at Bardoli have continued to employ every possible means to restore forfeited lands (sold to third parties) to their original owners.

Sir Cawasji Jehangir and K. F. Nariman having failed to influence Sardar Garda regarding the land he purchased at Babla and Satem, Rao Bahadur Bhimbhai Naik was brought into commission. He too having failed, Mr. Gandhi wrote the following letter to Sardar Garda :

Bardoli, May 30, 1931

Dear Sardar Garda,

I have your letter. If you will not accept arbitration in matter of your complaints I do not know how to give you satisfaction. The matter must now pass into lawyer's hands, and if they advised that the letter written by you undertaking to restore the lands in question to the original holders against the consideration named by you gives sufficient cause for action, law must take its course.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

The District Superintendent of Police remarks : " A good example of ' how to love your enemy' as preached by the perfect Satyagrahi, and the circumstances under which the law courts may be resorted to."

Page 1343, paras. 2005, 2005-A—

Kaira, June 13.—M. K. Gandhi, Kasturba Gandhi, Miraben (Miss Slade), Pyarelal, Devidas Gandhi, Mahadev Haribhai Desai and Abdul Gaffar Khan (the " Frontier Gandhi ") came to Borsad on June 12.

Surat, June 13.—On June 12, M. K. Gandhi, Vallabhbhai Patel, Abdul Gaffar Khan, Miraben (Miss Slade) and a large number of Congress workers proceeded to Moroli (Baroda State), where M. K. Gandhi laid the foundation stone of the Mithuben Kasturba Wanatshala. About 5,000 were present. The usual speeches were made, Gandhi paying a tribute to Miss Mithuben's work.

Pages 1348-49, para. 2024—

S. B., Bombay Presidency, Poona, June 27—

Kaira.—Mr. Gandhi returned to Borsad accompanied by Abdul Ghaffar Khan known as the " Frontier Gandhi". The latter addressed several meetings in Borsad Taluka and was evidently made use of, to stir the Mohammedans, and secure their allegiance to the Congress. He proved an impressive speaker. He had an audience of 2,000 persons on June 13 at Borsad and in the course of his speech he regretted that Indians were ready for the sake of titles and money to oppress men of their own nation. They had sold their faith. All the money of the country went to the Europeans instead of to them. But no power would be able to stop them in the next campaign. The District Superintendent of Police makes the following

remarks, Except in the case of the Thakore of Dehwan, very little land has been returned, and this is naturally a sore point with Mr. Gandhi. In addition, the question of some Patelships have not been settled to his satisfaction, while the question of land revenue is a thorny one. I gather that Gandhi's opinion is that the Land Revenue Code should be disregarded entirely, especially the provisions regarding coercive measures, and that such payments should only be accepted as are recommended by Congress, whose view as to ability or inability to pay should be accepted as the final word. This is particularly in the case of Ras, where he suggested the nominal sum of Rs. 500 although their dues amount Rs. 12,000. Enquiries however have shown that Ras is by no means so badly hit as it pretends, and considerable sums of money have been recently invested from the village in other enterprises."

Page 1350, para. 2025 (2) —

Extract from a report on the Political Situation and Labour Unrest, Bengal, for the week ending the 30th May 1931

If any further proof is desired that the Congress is expecting a further civil disobedience campaign, it is to be found in a letter written by Gandhi himself to a friend in Bengal in the middle of May. In this letter Gandhi writes to the effect that the state of communal feeling, which is not likely to improve in the near future, makes it impossible to expect the desired constitution. He sees no justification for hopes that peace will be established as a result of the Round Table Conference. He advised his friend to spread the gospel of the charkha and engage in philanthropic activities, which, he says, are the best preparations for civil disobedience and the like when they come. It is clear from this that Gandhi expects further civil disobedience and if he expects it, it is likely to come.

Page 1368, para. 2033—

Opening of Swadeshi Bazaar at Surat, June 13—

Mr. Gandhi's Message :

" Swadeshi includes hand-spun and hand-woven khadi, and all other articles manufactured in India. A bazaar of such articles deserves encouragement as it is beneficial to the country. Besides, these bazaars are the source of education to people in industry and manufacture of Indian goods."

Page 1394, para. 2088—

*Ahmedabad, June 20.—*Abdul Gaffarkhan Behramkhan (the Frontier Gandhi) arrived at Ahmedabad from Borsad on June 14 to see the Ashram and in connection with Muslim unity propaganda and returned to Borsad from Ahmedabad on June 16 to see M. K. Gandhi.

Page 1446, para. 2196—

Ahmedabad, June 27.—Rohitkumar Hasmatrai *alias* Hanmentrai Mehta went to Borsad from Ahmedabad on June 24 to consult M. K. Gandhi on the Gujarat College affairs and returned to Ahmedabad the same day.

Devdas Mohandas Gandhi went to Borsad from Ahmedabad on June 21 to see his father, M. K. Gandhi.

M. K. Gandhi, Mahadev Haribhai Desai, Devdas Gandhi and party left Borsad for Bombay on June 24.

Kasturba Gandhi continued her halt at Borsad.

Page 1448, para. 2202—

Surat, June 27.—M. K. Gandhi and V. J. Patel, accompanied by Jairam-das Daulatram Alimchandani, Mahadev H. Desai, Devdas Gandhi and Miss Maniben Patel arrived at Bulsar on June 26 from Bombay at 10-40 p.m.

About 2,000 people met them at the Railway station. M. K. Gandhi and V. J. Patel then proceeded by car to the house of Nathu Gulab, a local Congress worker at Ramji's Tekra, Bulsar where they put up for the night.

On June 27 a meeting of 4,000 to 5,000 people was held at 7-20 a.m., organised by Kanayalal N. Desai, Nathu Gulab and other local Congress workers.

M. K. Gandhi addressed them from the balcony of the 1st storey of the house where he had put up. He dwelt on the subject of khaddar and untouchability and requested the women to take up picketting foreign cloth shops and liquor and toddy shops by peaceful means.

Before the meeting one Bhangia Ravia, Koli of Undach, was taken to Mr. Gandhi by the local workers. This Koli's land was confiscated by Government during the civil disobedience movement for having allowed it to be used as a civil disobedience chhavani. Gandhi advised him to keep quiet for the present and promised he would look into the matter.

M. K. Gandhi and party then motored to Pardi where a meeting was held in the Umrigar Sarvajanic High School compound at 9-15 a.m. About 2,500 were present.

Dr. Uttamram Mehta of Vapi who opened the proceedings explained that they were afraid the Kolis and Bhandaris, etc., might again take to the liquor and toddy trade in the liquor and toddy auctions to be held shortly and that Pardi had practically taken no part in the no-tax campaign.

M. K. Gandhi spoke on the same lines as at Bulsar and consoled the people of Pardi by telling them they need not repent for failure of what

they have so far not been able to do; they can take up the no-tax campaign more vigorously when the proper time comes, if at all it does come.

A gold bangle which had been previously presented to Gandhi was auctioned for Rs. 151.

Two silver taklis presented during the meeting were auctioned for Rs. 51 and Rs. 96 and a purse of Rs. 244 was also presented to Gandhi by the people of Pardi.

The party proceeded by car to Udwada Railway Station where, after meals, another meeting was held in Nathu Kanjibhai's Wadi. Mithuben Petit joined the party here.

One Gordhandas Lallobhai, an ex-convict of the "Honours List" of Dharasna, read out the report of the work done in the Udwada area.

M. K. Gandhi and V. J. Patel delivered the usual speeches and stressed their suspicion of people being inclined to take part in the forthcoming liquor and toddy sales in these peaceful times, etc., and advised them to refrain from doing so.

Vallabhbhai Patel deprecated the idea of the local Congress workers calling Mr. Gandhi and himself every now and then to infuse spirit in them.

Two purses of Rs. 51 and 25 were given to Gandhi.

Party went to Udwada Town from here and held a meeting in the compound of Dubash's bungalow. The arrangement were organised by B. F. Bharucha who wanted to take Gandhi in procession, but the latter declined on the plea of insufficient time.

The attendance was poor, only about 500, half of whom were women and children being present, who were mostly Magelas and other low castes, the balance being Bharucha's faction of Udwada who are against the High Priest's party over the question of the priesthood of the Fire Temple.

Bharucha opened the proceedings by thanking Gandhi and Vallabhbhai for their "Darshans" and read out a short address.

Mrs. Pirojbai Dinshawji Unavala and Mrs. Trivedi also read out addresses.

M. K. Gandhi said he had a special object in visiting Udwada. When he first read about the notice served on Bharucha by the magistrate, he thought some one had played a joke on him, and his doubts were only removed when he saw the seal of the Court. He was prepared to assist the Parsees of Udwada in all respects, even to stopping the Prabhat Feris altogether. Up to now he had never heard of Hindus fighting with Parsees. However, as the case was subjudice he did not wish to make further comment on it, but

advised them to settle this matter out of Court, and added " I should like to hear of its settlement before I leave this place."

He praised the Parsee community in very generous terms and persuaded them to refrain from taking part in the drink trade.

Note.—There was no suggested settlement of the case, the next hearing being held today, June 29.

A purse of Rs. 225 was presented to Gandhi on behalf of Udwada and one of Rs. 76 from Kolak.

The Party proceeded to Vapi and addressed a meeting of 4,000 to 5,000 people on the open maidan near the bazaar.

Dr. Uttamram Mehta who opened the proceedings said they were not able to achieve much in the drink movement at Vapi owing to close proximity of Daman, Portuguese territory, and Thana district.

M. K. Gandhi and V. J. Patel spoke in the usual strain and said it was weak on the part of the people of Vapi to make excuses regarding foreign jurisdiction, etc. They should push ahead with the Congress constructive work and their neighbours will automatically take lessons from them and improve, etc.

A purse of Rs. 301 was presented by the people of Vapi and another of Rs. 51 by the villagers of Bagwada. A silver takli was auctioned for Rs. 15.

After the meeting M. K. Gandhi accompanied by Mahadev H. Desai and Miss Maniben Patel left for Borsad, Kaira district.

The remainder proceeded to Navsari *en route* for Bardoli.

Page 1457, para. 2222 (8) and (23) —

Kaira, June 27.—M. K. Gandhi remained at Borsad most of the week with his party. He did not deliver any speeches but gave advice to all who came to see him. So-called purchasers of confiscated lands should not be interfered with except by peaceful persuasion; all who could, should pay land revenue, as long as they did not have to sell anything or get into debt for the purpose; he still hoped to get the remaining village officers reinstated.

The situation at Ras is rather uneasy. The Patidars are complaining through M. K. Gandhi that their hedges are being pulled down and trees, etc., cut by Dharalas. They have made no direct complaint either to the Police or to a Magistrate, and are unable to accuse any particular person. They just generalise and accuse Dharalas as a class. M. K. Gandhi, who implicitly believes them, suggests that this is due to the fact that the Dharala Patil has not yet been displaced by the former Patidar officer. It is not improbable

that the Patidars are committing this damage themselves in order to bring the Dharalas into disrepute, to force them to surrender the lands they have bought, and to get the Dharala Patel out.

Page 1465, para. 23—

Serial No., date and place	Auspices	Attendance
14. 26th June 1931, Madhav Bagh	--	2.000

Speakers	Remarks
M. K. Gandhi	Congratulated the women of Bombay on the splendid part they played during the civil disobedience movement and appealed to them to become Desh Sevikas with a view to propagating khaddar and boycotting foreign cloth.

Page 1471, para. 2227 (6)—

Ahmedabad, June 25.—" Picketting at cloth shops outside Panch Kuva continues. M. K. Gandhi on hearing that certain picketters had gone on hunger strike, sent his Secretary Mahadev Desai, to Ahmedabad on June 19, who advised them not to resort to such methods saying that picketting should be done by people from the Ashram and Vidyapith."

Page 1480, para. 2240—

*Ahmedabad, June 23/24.—*A certain amount of dissatisfaction prevails on account of the decision of the Principal of the Gujarat College not to admit certain students (Rohit Mehta and others) who took a prominent part in the College strike and the civil disobedience movement.

Page 1481—

A second meeting was held on June 25 at Ahmedabad which was attended by 100 students. Natwarlal Bhailal Desai proposed a resolution, which was passed unanimously postponing consideration of the resolution passed on June 23 till M. K. Gandhi permits them to go on strike and requested the proposer to write to M. K. Gandhi supplying him with full particulars.

Rohit Mehta said : We should take advantage of the correspondence between M. K. Gandhi and Principal Shirras. Gandhi takes a keen interest in the affairs of the Gujarat College. We should assure him that the Gujarat College students will not lose their self-respect. The principal might change his orders because of the advice of Gandhi. Principal Shirras read the letter three times with interest.

We have wired to Gandhi about this also. I think he will write that we instigate the other students. We should supply Gandhi with the facts of injustice done to us by the Principal.

Rohit Mehta and Ramanlal Motilal Gandhi paid a flying visit to Borsad on June 24 and saw M. K. Gandhi. He gave them a letter to the Principal and also sent a message to the students to the effect that he had no objection to a strike, provided that they all stood together and used no violence. As the Principal's attitude is expected to remain unchanged, a strike is anticipated early next week. It is not anticipated that this action will be very favourably supported by the students, the majority of whom have already lost a year in their studies.

Page 1484, para. 2250—

From the Punjab Secret Abstract, dated June 27, 1931, para. 667

The Bhagatsingh Memorial Committee is receiving very little support. Mehta Anand Kishore and Dr. Satyapal announced a grandiose committee of All-India leaders. Not a single one of these persons has paid any attention to the invitations and appeals sent them, except Mr. Gandhi, who sent a crushing and most straightforward refusal to have anything to do with the memorial. He said it was inconceivable to him that any one could support a memorial to executed murderers without thereby expressing approval of murder, a thing he would never do. Even the promoters and local supporters of the fund have for the most part limited their support to words; Mehta Anand Kishore has issued "hue and cry" notices regarding the boys who absconded with collecting boxes and warnings against bogus collectors, and the scandal of Kishen Singh's misappropriation of what he collected in the United Provinces is public property.

Page 1496, paras. 2293-94—

M. K. Gandhi, Mahadeo Haribhai Desai and Devdas Gandhi came to Borsad from Udwada on July 28.

*Kaira, July 4.—*M. K. Gandhi has been at Borsad the whole of the week. As far as can be gathered he has honestly tried to assist in the collection of land revenue to the best of his ability. The only trouble is that he believes implicitly in his underlings, and take all their allegations for gospel truth; they are not slow to take advantage of this.

Page 1522, para. 2331—

Ahmedabad, July 4.—The Principal of the Gujarat College is corresponding with M. K. Gandhi over the exclusion from the College of certain students. Local interest has waned and it is highly impossible that in the event of the Principal's action being firmly upheld, a strike of the College students will ensue.

Page 1545, para. 2387-B—

Both Mr. Gandhi and Vallabhbhai J. Patel appeared to be greatly perturbed on the situation in Gujarat. Vallabhbhai Patel apparently considers that he has "let down" by local Congress workers and newspapers. The newspapers have been recently criticising the Congress accounts. On the top of this, in a complaint under section 500, I.P.C., filed by Sardar Garda against Nathu Gulab of Sarbhon, a notorious civil disobedience worker, the latter tendered an unqualified apology before the court of the First Class Magistrate, Bardoli, whereupon Sardar Garda withdrew the case as requested. This Nathu Gulab is one of the workers who furnished particulars to Messrs. Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Patel regarding happenings at Babla and Sarbhon and also alleged that Sardar Garda had filed a false complaint against him. This is yet another instance which proves how unreliable the source of information is, on which Mr. Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Patel have been basing their "Grievances".

There is also the fact that land revenue is being paid up freely in the district in spite of statements previously made by Mr. Gandhi and local Congress workers that the people were quite unable to pay any further amounts. It appears that the actual situation in Gujarat has been much exaggerated by local Congress leaders, who have, to some extent, misled Mr. M. K. Gandhi himself as to the real situation while he was away from the district.

In *Young India* of July 23, Mr. Gandhi gives advice to Congress workers "owing to the renewed activity of local authorities against Congressmen". It appears evident that he is referring to the situation in Gujarat. The advice he gives is as follows : "I would commend to Congress workers the golden rule followed by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in Gujarat. He has generally proscribed speech altogether by Congress workers, speeches being confined to him and me. As a matter of fact, even he speaks only on such occasions when it becomes absolutely necessary. I do not think that Gujarat has suffered for this rule of silence. Whether at war or peace, what we need is silent work."

"What is wanted is intimate personal contact between the villagers and workers."

Page 1579, para. 3035—

Panch Mahals, July 18.—M. K. Gandhi passed through *en route* to Simla on July 14.

Pages 1607-8, para. 3089-A—

Agitation as disclosed by meetings is even less than last week. The only districts reporting over five meetings are Satara (six meetings), East Khandesh (seven meetings, only in one case did the audience exceed 100). Nasik and Dharwar report five meetings each.

Many districts report none at all.

Diametrically opposite views on the tendency to violence have been expressed by Mr. Gandhi and by the *Mahratta* newspaper, Poona.

Mr. Gandhi in his leading article in *Young India* of August 6 has come forward with a strong condemnation of the Garlick murder as follows : " This murder in Bengal of a judge who was performing his duty according to his rights is a disgrace to the perpetrators." "Indeed one murder of a European official affects the atmosphere in the whole of India." I have had it whispered to me, that violence going on side by side with non-violence must help the latter. As the author of the non-violent programme and as an expert in the line, let me proclaim with all the strength of conviction that it is a serious delusion to think that violence can help non-violence. On this matter my evidence based on long experience should be regarded as conclusive. I can assert that every act of political violence injures the nonviolent movement. Every one knows how it unnerves me. What has been called the Bardoli blunder and what I claim as an act of first class wisdom was due to an ugly outbreak of violence on the part of professing Congressmen at Chauri Chaura. But for the postponement of civil disobedience at the time, the country would not have made the phenomenal progress it has made."

The *Mahratta* newspaper on the other hand in its issue dated August 9 criticises both Mr. Gandhi and the All-India Congress Committee strongly as follows : " Both the Congress Working Committee and the All-India Congress Committee, holding their meetings in Bombay, have gone out of their way to condemn the outrages committed by Indian revolutionaries recently in Poona and Alipore. The resolution of condemnation is wholly one-sided and deplorably irrelevant. None of the perpetrators of the crimes had any connection with the Congress. Nor have the revolutionaries who are ever ready to lose their life in discharging their self-imposed mission, ever requested any help either from Mahatma Gandhi or from the Congress." " If the All-India Congress Committee and the Working Committee, under the heavy incubus of Mahatma Gandhi's non-violence, ' even where provocation

is given for such deeds', dare to think and declare that the revolutionaries 'retard the progress of the country'; well, the revolutionaries, on their part, have the right to claim that the fanatic and fanciful insistence on non-violence equally truly retards the progress of the country."

The *Mahratta* newspaper also quotes in its first two pages extracts from other Indian papers including the *Tribune*, the *People* and the *Daily Herald* of Lahore, the *Hindustan Times*, Delhi, *Sind Observer*, Karachi, and *Liberty*, Calcutta, to the effect that a steady pursuit of conciliation and a freer grant of Self-Government will cure violence. These views are in keeping with the opinions generally expressed by this newspaper.

Mr. Gandhi had an interview with the Collector of Surat on July 28. The District Superintendent of Police, Surat, makes the following remarks in connection with this meeting. Mr. Gandhi contended that "having accepted the help of the Congress workers towards the collection of land revenue it is a breach of the agreement to have used any pressure without the consent of the Congress, and that all cases where the Congress and Government differed should have been referred to arbitration."

"When the District Magistrate was writing his account of the interview Mr. Gandhi endeavoured to dictate points in the note on the interview and when it was pointed out to him that his statements were either incorrect or unsustainable he said 'never mind, you register my protest and if Government cannot give me satisfaction I will claim arbitrations'. Ultimately he became 'confidential' and communicative, and remarked that he was getting so many requests from Lancashire and other Labour centres in England that he felt it would be difficult to please them and yet urge the cause of India, so rather than go to England he would prefer to remain here and fight."

The Bombay Chronicle dated August 11 makes the following remarks on the future of Congress volunteers : "By merging themselves into the Congress organisation, the Hindustani Seva Dal, the Frontier Jirga and the latter's volunteers corps, 50,000 strong, known as Khudai Khidmatgars, have benefited themselves and the Congress alike. The old popular names may well remain, but the institutions will be directly controlled by the Congress and not circuitously, partially and haphazardly as hitherto. It appears from Mahatma Gandhi's opening speech at the Conference of the Hindustani Seva Dal that the Congress is attempting to organise all the volunteers in the country, so far independently carrying out the Congress programme. It is a belated but right move. It would be a grave anomaly if the Congress had not sufficiently large army of volunteers, regularly trained and disciplined, and working under its direct control."

Page 1631, para. 4021—

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi came to Ahmedabad from Borsad on July 31 to visit the Ashram.

Page 1633, para. 4028-A—

The number of meetings still remains small in districts. The only districts which report more than five meetings are Ahmedabad, East Khandesh, Satara and Dharwar.

Five of the Dharwar meetings had audiences of 1,000 and over; attendance were small in other districts. Attention was mainly concentrated on the Congress Working Committee meetings in Bombay and on the prospects of Mr. Gandhi's going to the Round Table Conference.

Mahadeo Desai, Mr. Gandhi's Secretary, gives in *Young India*, dated August 13, extracts from Mr. Gandhi's speech on the 8th of August explaining why he could decide about going to the Round Table Conference. As the working of his mind is of political interest, the following extract from this are quoted below : Mr. Gandhi said : " I may tell you that I am doing all that is humanly possible to enable me to go to London. The settlement commits the Congress to participate in the Round Table Conference to place the Congress point of view before it. But without the necessary atmosphere my going there would be futile. I therefore declared that I could not go unless there was a solution of the Hindu-Muslim-Sikh problem. The Working Committee discussed my declaration, my reasoning did not appeal to it, and I had to bow to its decision that I must go even though a solution could not be attained before my going." "But there were other difficulties, one of them being the implementing of the Truce by Government. In this connection I made up my mind that I must not make much of minor breaches of the truce. For instance there are still many in jail who should have been released under the Settlement, there are still prosecutions going on, and still arrests being made. But as we the workers have voluntarily chosen the path of suffering, a few months' imprisonment is of small account. But it is quite a different matter where the peasants are concerned. How can I ask them to put up with more suffering ? The Congress is essentially and pre-eminently a Kisan organisation. It also endeavours to represent the Zamindars and the propertied classes, but only to the extent that the interests of the Kisans are not prejudiced thereby. The Congress is nothing if it does not represent the Kisan. And I was faced with the Kisan problem in the United Provinces and in Gujarat. Mr. Emerson, the Home Secretary, helped to the extent that he could. The Viceroy also assured me that I need not worry and that he would do everything needful. Cordial as this assurance was, I wanted to see if there were any signs of the assurance being carried out."

He was also profoundly moved by the attack on a pro-Congress Muhammadan leader in the Jinnah Hall, Bombay, and said, " Ours is a vast country, there are all sorts of rumours in the air and anything may lead to a conflagration. You know what happened in the Jinnah Memorial Hall. Those are things that makes me tremble, and may even unnerve me. Would you send a nervous wreck to the Conference ? My decision would shock Lord Irwin who might well doubt whether I was in my senses, but even at the risk of annoying him I would prefer to stay here, if something that may happen between now and 15th shook me to the marrow."

He continued to speak about the Hindu-Muslim tension and is reported to have been so overwhelmed with emotion that he broke down momentarily.

He continued " I had a graphic account of the incident (i.e., at the Jinnah Memorial Hall). It shot into me like an arrow. But that is not all. I am studying and trying to understand what is lying concealed under the surface, and I must to a certain extent hold myself responsible for what is happening, God used me as an instrument for creating that great awakening in the country in 1919. Naturally passions were aroused, but as all regarded them-selves Indians fighting for a common cause, there was no internecine conflict. But that was only a momentary dream soon to vanish like smoke, and now we find that we are all at war against one another. That makes me unfit for the work for Swaraj. And so I say that although the atmosphere may otherwise be clear, something might happen which might make me mad and absolutely powerless. Surely you would not then want to send to London a man who was so unnerved. You must send one with faith, and I find myself fast losing faith. That produced the collapse that you saw a moment ago."

Mr. Gandhi's ideals for the Hindustani Seva Dal are also of interest, as this body is now officially merged in the Congress. His remarks on this are also quoted in *Young India* for August 13 : " Let the Seva Dal men be the salt of the Congress earth. That army will be more powerful than any violent army. The violent army cannot prevent the poison of untruth and communal strike from spreading but you as a non-violent army should be able to check it." "It is not an idle dream, for whilst a violent army has its obvious limitations, a non-violent army has none of the same type. Once it takes fire, it does not require any other training or discipline. It should be the function of the Central Board to present an object lesson by the concentration on one spot which may be the headquarters of an ideal army. If the movement catches fire in Karnatak, it will over run the whole of India, but if it does not catch in Karnatak, it will produce mighty little effect in the province itself, much less in India. If it becomes a live force, I should, if God wants me again to tour through Karnatak, see a different atmosphere there. The whole province would then be a depot of non-violent soldiers streaming out from day to day, just as every port town is a huge sailors' quarters. The

Central Board has been deliberately intended to supply only officers. There can be no provincial organisation without an officer certified by the Seva Dal office. And I have that amazing faith in Jawahar. Fired with ample zeal he will do it. There may be self-deception in this belief of mine, but that self-deception will help the country. As for Dr. Hardikar, I have not come in close touch with him, but I have hope and faith in him because I have faith in the destiny of India."

The following extracts from the report by Devidas Gandhi who was especially deputed by his father to study the volunteer organisation known as the " Khudai Khidmatgars " of the North-West Frontier Province are also of interest. Devidas Gandhi reported that " while his (i.e. Khan Saheb Abdul Ghaffar Khan) remarkable influence lasts, there can be no doubt that the movement would continue alright along lines with strict adherence to nonviolence. There are probably a number of men who have crept into the movement in order to subvert his influence. If anything should happen to disturb the present atmosphere in the province, it is just possible that they may meet with some success."

Devidas Gandhi's report makes no secret of the fact that the Hindus and Sikhs on the Frontier still had little faith in the Khudai Khidmatgars. He makes the following remarks in this connection : " I had a long conversation with a few influential Hindus of Peshawar some of whom are said to be pro-Government. As they had expressed a wish to see me, I was only too glad to avail myself of the opportunity to be acquainted with their view. They made no secret of their misgivings with regard to the ultimate outcome of the red-shirts movement. They are afraid that it may any time get out of the form of hostility towards the Hindus. They greatly fear ' an outbreak of Muslim ferocity against the handful of docile Hindus.' The red-shirt movement, under which the Muslims are undoubtedly getting well organised, is looked upon by them as a source of danger. They paid a high tribute to Khan Saheb's patriotism, against whom they had nothing to say. In expressing their apprehensions, based mainly on past occurrences, they took little note of the great influence Khan Abdul Ghaffar wields over the masses of the Province. As it was not possible for me to devote more time to these discussions, some Sikh friends who had wished to help me with their experiences gave me a written memorandum. They share the misgivings of the Hindus. In common with the Hindus they strongly pleaded for the safeguarding of their interests in any future constitution."

The *Mahratta* newspaper continues to attack Mr. Gandhi and strongly criticises his failure to go to the Round Table Conference. In its issue, dated the 16th August as follows : "The Congress should have exercised some sense of proportion between the alleged breaches of the Pact in some villages of Surat district or in the United Provinces and the national consequences of the boycott of the Round Table Conference ! Mahatma Gandhi

and the Congress did not choose to regard the Pact as broken in spirit when, just on the eve of the Karachi Congress, Bhagatsingh and his companions were executed and the then Viceroy openly justified the most offensive act! And now he thinks the minor breaches of the Pact in Gujarat as enough reason for proclaiming a boycott of the Round Table Conference which is designed to formulate a political constitution for the whole of India! This conduct is much like the one of swallowing a camel and straining at a gnat. But he has got the uncanny knack of hitting upon a policy which would be exactly against the lasting interests of the nation and omitting to do what, if done precisely at the moment, would result in immense good to the nation. The failure of the Sapru-Jayakar negotiations during the last Civil Disobedience movement was one recent proof and the boycott of the Round Table Conference is now another.

Under the circumstances, we emphatically hold that the boycott of the Round Table Conference is a national blunder."

This paper again continued to publish objectionable references to the attack on His Excellency the Governor of Bombay. Its issue dated the 16th August contains a photograph of Mr. V. B. Gogate and immediately below it an anonymous letter headed " The other side of political crimes " of which the following are extracts : " The blindfold condemnation of political crimes by level-headed journals like the *Young India* the Week and leads one to wonder whether their way of condemning these crimes does not resemble the crude horror of old women. They are merely horrified by the crimes, wholeheartedly condemn them, mutter a few broken sentences and go to their daily routine"... "Be it remembered further that the crimes being committed by ignorant or illiterate starvers or rascals are far more difficult of curbing than those committed by educated and intelligent youths, who are always amenable to reason and have a natural bent for peaceful and honourable occupation. If our Swarajya should not be able to guide such pearls of our sons, what else can it do ? And what Swarajya can it be ? "

The letter is signed "Man" and dated Bombay, 11th August 1931.

Page 1643, para. 4032 (1) —

Kaira, August 1.—The chief feature of the week has been the visit of Vallabhbhai J. Patel and M. K. Gandhi to Borsad. The reason for their visit was ostensibly supposed to be the reconciliation of the Patidar. It will be remembered that many were fined by the *Panch* as they had paid land revenue before the truce, etc., and the result had been a split. It was at first given out that a compromise had been effected which meant that those who had been mulcted were talked over by Vallabhbhai Patel without getting their money back. This unsatisfactory result was brought to M. K. Gandhi's notice, and it is now understood that M. K. Gandhi is using his influence to get all fines refunded except for a nominal sum of one rupee.

Conversations were however most secret and held behind closed doors, so that the full extent has not leaked out. Representatives of all affected villages came, and it is noteworthy that the recommencement of a fresh and forceful struggle in December is being talked about, unless complete Swaraj is obtained at the Round Table Conference.

The Sub-Inspector, Kathana, reports talk is as follows : " Government are not observing truce terms. Attachments are being carried out. It is doubtful whether M. K. Gandhi will go to the Round Table Conference. If Government breaks the truce terms, the movement should be started dangerously, and all Government servants should be boycotted."

Proposals for intensifying picketting of liquor and cloth shops were considered.

During their visit they distributed Rs. 2,000 on loan to farmers.

Page 1644, para. 4032 (2) —

Surat, August 1.—On July 28th both the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police were in camp at Bardoli. The District Magistrate visited Mr. Gandhi at the Ashram and requested him to cite any specific cases of harassment, etc. (as alleged by V. Patel in his telegram to Mr. Gandhi while he was at Simla).

Mr. Gandhi replied in writing (his day of silence) to the effect that his cases were not ready but as his silence broke at 6 p.m. and he was leaving Bardoli, he would be pleased to discuss the matter with the District Magistrate.

Accordingly an interview was arranged at the District Magistrate's bungalow, Surat, where two-hour discussion took place, during which Mr. Gandhi harped on vague and general charges. He was unable to cite any single instance into which enquiries could be made and summed up his grievances with the remark " the whole picture is of threats and intimidation, I do not complain of any particular incident".

The villagers have definitely shown signs that they have no axe to grind with the Government officials and the relations generally, between both parties, have, during the collections, been quite friendly in many cases even during the presence of local Congress agitators.

It is hoped Bardoli will for the present be left in peace to concentrate more on farming than politics, which the villagers themselves really prefer.

Page 1663, para. 4065-A—

Ahmedabad, August 8.—M. K. Gandhi left Ahmedabad for Bombay on August 2 to attend the meeting of the Working Committee of the All-India Congress Committee.

Page 1664, para. 4065-B—

Ahmedabad, August 8.—Valchand Hirachand, a well-known merchant of Bombay, who had recently returned from London, arrived at Ahmedabad on August 1. He met M. K. Gandhi, Vallabhbhai J. Patel, Jamnalal Bajaj and other leaders at the Gujarat Vidyapith. He narrated his personal experiences of England and doubted the utility of M. K. Gandhi's forthcoming visit to England. He added that Britishers have not the least desire to grant any concessions to India and asked Gandhi to consider the attitude of Messrs. Churchill and MacDonald. Valchand left for Bombay on August 1.

Page 1664, para. 4067 (2) —

Poona, August 8.—M. K. Gandhi, accompanied by Jamnalal Bajaj, Mahadeobhai Desai and Pyarelal came to Poona on the early morning of August 4. They got down at Kirkee and drove to the bungalow of Lady Thakersay. Mr. Gandhi had a four-hour interview with His Excellency the Governor and returned to Bombay the same afternoon. About 100 persons collected at Kirkee Station to see him off.

Page 1644, para. 4067 (1) —

Ahmedabad, August 8.—M. K. Gandhi arrived in Ahmedabad on the morning of July 31 with Mahadev Haribhai Desai and put up at the Gujarat Vidyapith. He visited the Ashram and indicated by his preparations that he would sail for London on August 15. On August 2, he performed the opening ceremony of the Sir Chinubhai temple for untouchables in Shahibagh. This function was attended by 300 persons.

Page 1674, para. 4078 (12) —

Item 15

Serial No., date and place	Auspices	Audience
7th August 1931, Sir Cowasji Jehangir Hall	Parsi Rajkiya Sabha	1,500
Speakers	Remarks	
Mrs. Goshup Captain (President), M. K. Gandhi.	Mr. M. K. Gandhi appreciated the services of the Parsis to the cause of the country and advised them (1) to take khaddar, (2) to stop liquor trade and (3) to cultivate simple habits of life. A sum of Rs. 3,000 realised by the sale of tickets, was handed over to him by Mrs. Captain for the use of ' Sabarmati Ashram' other purposes he liked.	

Page 1683, para. 4093—

Bombay, August 10.—A special conference of the Hindustani Seva Dal was held in the Peoples Jinnah Hall on August 9 to consider the question of acceptance of the Congress Working Committee resolution which brought the Dal under the direct control of the Congress. Mr. M. K. Gandhi opened the proceedings of the conference while Vallabhbhai J. Patel presided. About 50 delegates, including 30 female delegates and 250 visitors attended. Prominent persons who attended the conference were :

(1) Pandit J. Nehru. (2) Mrs. Jawaharlal Nehru. (3) K. F. Nariman. (4) S. V. Sovani. (5) Dr. N. S. Hardikar. (6) B. Sambamurti. (7) Mrs. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyaya. (9) Dr. D. D. Sathaye. (10) Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan. (11) Mrs. Avantikabai Gokhale. (12) Babasaheb Deshmukh. (13) Babu Rajendra Prasad. (14) Chandulal Desai. (15) Mohanlal Sexena. (16) Abidally Jafferbhai.

An extract from the *Bombay Chronicle*, dated the 10th August 1931, which gives full and correct report of the proceedings of the Conference is given below :

At a special session of the Hindustani Seva Dal Conference held on Sunday afternoon in the Jinnah Hall a resolution was adopted confirming the decision of the Central Board of Volunteers to dissolve all the organisations of the Dal and handing it over to the Working Committee of the Congress.

Mahatma Gandhi then declared the Conference open after making a short speech. He said the Conference was meant not to write the epitaph of the Seva Dal as Mrs. Naidu, who was asked to preside but could not do so owing to her departure to Hyderabad, had said in her letter. On the contrary it was meant to make the Seva Dal stronger. The Congress now wanted to bring the Dal under its direct control because it felt that the time had come when it should organise all the volunteers in the country and bring them under its own control.

Proceeding he said " The fight we carried on last year impressed upon me the need of training and discipline among the volunteers. The volunteers that we got as the struggle proceeded had not the required training. Although we gained much by that struggle we also suffered in certain respects. It is but natural, when there is mass awakening. But if there is no discipline many evils are sure to creep in. It did happen like that in the last struggle.

The volunteer organisations are in fact the very soul of the Congress. The very existence of the Congress depends on them because they are the army of the Congress. Our success depends on our non-violent army of volunteers. We expect that the changes will strengthen the Dal and make it more useful for the service of the country.

Page 1684, para. 4093—

Bombay City, S. B., August 10.—The Working Committee had decided to entrust the work to Dr. Hardikar and Pandit Jawaharlal. At present we are living in peace time. Whether the Truce is followed by a permanent peace or whether we have to start the struggle again we require the services of the Dal. As I said it is our army and we have to maintain it.

Page 1694, para. 5008—

Ahmedabad, August 8.—On August 2, Hari Prasad B. Desai, Natwar Tapishankar Pandit and Bhanushankar V. Acharya saw M. K. Gandhi in connection with the release of H. R. Rajah. Mr. Gandhi stated that he would do all in his power to effect Rajah's release.

APPENDIX B (P. 6) after page 1695

Extract from Bombay Chronicle, dated 7th August 1931

Mahatmaji on Congress Responsibility

A.I.C.C. Meeting, Bombay

Speaking on the resolution, Gandhiji said :

" This resolution has not been brought forward to deceive ourselves or Englishmen or the world at large. It has been moved to declare what is the creed of the Congress. The creed of the Congress is to strive for the attainment of ' Purna Swaraj ' by non-violent and peaceful means. We have decided to follow the path of peace, truth and righteousness. And so long as we believe in it and want the world also to believe that, that is our way then it becomes obligatory upon us to stick to it scrupulously in thought, word and deed. It also becomes our duty to prevent those who want to follow the opposite way. We must try to win them over. In 1920 when the Congress first adopted non-violence as its creed the argument was brought forward why the Congress should take any notice of what those who were not members of the Congress did. It was said that while Congress should follow its own way it should allow others to do what they liked. It was said that if Congress wanted it should stick to non-violence and even submit patiently to violence used against it by its opponents, but it has no business to advise others or come in their way.

" Since the time this controversy started my reply to it has been that the Congress claims to represent and speak in the name of India and the fight it has been carrying on is for the good of every Indian whether he is a Hindu or a Muslim, a Christian or a Parsi. We claim to exert influence on them and we represent them and speak in their name. Our fight is not for Congressmen alone. If it were so our task would have been very simple. Last year when we carried on the struggle for freedom against the Government, the whole country was at our back. All those who participated in the struggle

were not Congress members. But our strength is immensely increased by working for them and accepting their help. The Government admits the strength of the Congress not because there are some thousand members in the roll of the Congress or there are a few lawyers, doctors, or other learned men in the Congress who can very well argue and discuss tilings. The Government recognises the strength of the Congress because it feels that the voice of the Congress has reached the villages.

" Those who commit murders are also our brethren. We must exert influence on them. When we claim to represent them we also must accept the responsibility for what they do.

" There is still a large number of people who say that I committed a blunder when I stopped the fight in Bardoli in 1921. They say that if we had continued our fight, then by this time we would have been free. I believe it is a mistake to think so. It is even now my firm belief that what I did in Bardoli in 1921, was right and India has immensely gained by that action. The present awakening in the country is due to that action.

" On former occasions when we condemned such actions we also raised the spirits of sacrifice among the young men. But we praised it so much that I think we reached the limit when we passed the resolution at Karachi about Bhagatsingh and his comrades. I did so in the belief that it would have a sobering effect on the youths but I failed in that attempt. I am not unaware of the increased strength of the youths but it is being misused. I did not get the least success in those attempts. On the contrary it was exploited very badly and I am sorry for it."

Reply to Critics .

" There are those who accuse me of agreeing to that proposition at Karachi dishonestly because I wanted to placate the youths as I had to carry the Congress with me in ratifying the Delhi Pact and attend the Round Table Conference. My reply to these critics is that you cannot claim to know what is in my mind. It is God alone who knows That. But I can say this much that I shall never commit such blunder. If I do I shall not be true to the Congress. For others it may be a question of mere policy but for me it is my Dharma. How is it possible for me to commit such a grave blunder for a small matter ? I have never done it in my life. I do not attach so much value to the Round Table Conference as to sacrifice that great principle of my life for it. I certainly attach more value to the Delhi Pact."

Official Violence

I am also aware of the objection raised why the crimes of one young man are magnified, while the Government whose faults drive our young men to commit such actions is not criticised. I do not know if there is any need

on the part of the Congress to do that work. Those who demand such condemnation of the Government by the Congress do not understand the Congress. The very existence of the Congress is to destroy the present system of Government. The Congress wants to put a stop to what has been going on for years in this country. The Congress decided it when it first launched the non-co-operation movement.

Pages 12-13—

On 8th August Saturday evening Mr. Gandhi arrived and he addressed the House. He requested Satyamurti to withdraw the resolution tabled by him about the Indian States subjects. He consented. Mr. Gandhi said that at Karachi he had explained the position clearly as regards the States question. They should do nothing to embarrass the situation. He wondered as to why the question was now reopened before them. It was not one of the fundamental rights. He added that the question would be settled at the Round Table Conference if he went there at all. He was given a *Vakalatnama* by them and they must allow him to plead in his own way and present the case as he thought most suitable. In conclusion he said that adoption of the fundamental rights and the economic programme was intended to show what the Swaraj scheme of affairs would be alike. The addition of the article on the State subjects would not better or add to the enunciation of the rights.

Mr. Gandhi then expressed his views and made an important statement as regards his proposed visit to London to join the Round Table Conference. He said that he had been doing all that was humanly possible for enabling him to proceed to London. They had entered into an agreement with the Government which required that he should go to London and participate in the Round Table Conference. The pact also required that he should place before the Conference their case and argue it out. He said he could not avoid going there but to enable him to do so the required atmosphere was necessary. He had been repeatedly saying after the Delhi pact that unless the communal issue was satisfactorily settled he would not proceed to London. Much was made of this statement of his by the foreign papers which declared that Gandhi wanted to back out from the Delhi agreement. In view of these criticisms the Working Committee decided that even if the settlement was not arrived at on the communal issue he should go to London. This did not show any weakness on the part of the Working Committee. He said that he was not going to London as the representative of the Hindus but as the representative of the Congress which did not recognise any caste, but represented the Indian Nation. As he was the servant of the Congress he had to bow down before the considerations of the Working Committee. This decision of the Working Committee had done away with one of the obstacles that were in his way and he thus advanced a step towards London. The other obstacle was the implementing of the truce terms by the Government. The arrest of workers and leaders would not make it a question of

breaking the agreement but where it concerned the *kisans* it was quite a different matter to him. He said he could not allow the poor *kisans* to be harassed as it was their primary duty to save them and safeguard their interests. The Congress was no Congress if it was not for the *kisans*. Congress represented the Zamindars, the Rajas and the capitalists but its primary concern was to look to the interests of the peasants. The Congress could co-operate with the monied class so long as it did not harm the interest of the peasants, but it would fight against them for the rights of the *kisans*. He referred to the Jinnah Hall "goondaism". This incident immensely annoyed him and almost unnerved him. It was, therefore, no use of their sending a man who was so unnerved to represent their cause. At this stage Mr. Gandhi broke down due to emotions and his voice failed for a couple of minutes. Continuing after a slight pause he began to speak in English as follows :

Although the atmosphere might be clear so far as the Government and the implementing of the truce terms were concerned there were still dangers lying in his way. Once more he referred to the Jinnah Hall incidents. He was trying to understand much of what was going on under the surface. He said that he was not fit to do any constructive work because they were at war against one another. To him all were alike and when he saw the conditions in India he felt that his place was not in London. Regarding his proceeding to London he said that that day he knew that he was not proceeding to London. He knew it was a humiliating position but he would leave no single stone unturned to see that he could go. He left it to Government to make whatever pronouncement they like over this announcement of his.

On the question of the scheme for communal settlement Mr. Gandhi observed that it should not be discussed there. He was of opinion to drop the matter for public opinion.

Page 1698, para. 5019—

Dr. Choithram Pratabrai Gidwani came to Ahmedabad with M. K. Gandhi from Bombay on August 15.

Page 1702, para. 5028 (4) —

*Ahmedabad, August 15.—*The District Superintendent of Police remarks :

" It is stated that Mr. Gandhi has postponed his departure for England in order to arrive at some settlement with Government as regards the collection of land revenue in Bardoli and Borsad Talukas, but the real reason appears to be that he has not sufficient confidence in Vallabhbhai Patel, and is afraid that he might revive the Civil Disobedience movement or start a similar campaign in his (Gandhi's) absence."

Natvar Tapishankar Pandit had an interview with M. K. Gandhi on August 18 and brought up the question of H. D. Rajah being still in jail. Mr. Gandhi informed him that the Government of Bombay were not prepared to release Rajah as the speeches for which he was convicted incited people to violence. Pandit then asked Mr. Gandhi to give him a message for his paper *Kranti*. The latter refused, saying that he would like to know the tone of the paper first.

Page 1723, para. 5068—

Ahmedabad, August 22.—Mr. M. K. Gandhi and party arrived at Ahmedabad from Bombay on August 15. He is staying at the Vidyapith and pays frequent visits to the Ashram.

Page 1728, para. 5083 (2-A)—

Karkana, August 22.—M. K. Gandhi's non-participation in the Round Table Conference has caused general discontent among the merchant class, while the Congress, who applaud his decision, are making preparations for a recurrence of Civil disobedience.

Page 1729, para. 5083 (4)—

Ahmedabad, August 22.—M. K. Gandhi addressed a gathering of 100 persons at the Vidyapith on August 15 after evening prayers as follows :

" I have told you from the outset that my departure for London may be taken for granted only when I have gone on board the steamer at Bombay. You thought that I was jesting but you now realise that I was in earnest.

It was at 2 p.m. last Thursday that I definitely knew that my departure had been cancelled. The Working Committee of the Congress has issued instructions that we should not even contemplate going to London. We may go to London if necessary, but our ultimate object is here. At present we are doing our utmost, but it is possible that, when we have achieved our desire, it will not be to our liking. We must persevere in our efforts. The sky is overcast; the future is most uncertain. If we have faith, the sky will clear. We will be put to a most severe test shortly, but we must be patient. The whole world admits that Gujarat excelled during the Civil Disobedience movement and it is certain that Gujarat will lead in the event of the struggle being revived. Many people enquire whether the fight will be resumed as the London programme has been cancelled. But we believe that negotiations are still in progress; if Government proclaims that the truce will not be observed any longer, we are quite prepared to continue the fight. If Government declares that the truce is to continue, well and good; we must act accordingly. We will see what happens in the next few days. Some are pleased that the London programme has been cancelled because they are

convinced that nothing will be achieved at the Round Table Conference. I have nothing to say to them, but I warn those who have faith in the Round Table Conference that they should not be optimistic as regards the eventual issue."

Page 1752, para. 5112—

Ahmedabad, August 29.—Miss Khurshed Naoroji, non-co-operator, anti-liquor worker, came to Ahmedabad from Bombay on August 23 to see M. K. Gandhi and accompanied him to Simla the same day.

Other prominent persons who went with Gandhi to Simla are : Miss Mani, daughter of V. J. Patel, non-co-operator; Devdas Mohandas Gandhi, non-co-operator; Raghavacharya, non-co-operator, Gandhi's typist; Raghavendra, non-co-operator; Brij Kishan, non-co-operator; Madhukar M. Patel, non-co-operator with extreme views; Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel and Mahadev Haribhai Desai.

Page 1753, para. 5112—

Name	Arrived		Left		Remarks
	On	From	On	For	
M. K. Gandhi	29th August 1931 in Bombay.	Simla	29th August 1931.	London .	Left by S. S. Rajputana.

Page 1790, para. 5166—

Bombay City, S. B., September 4.—During the week the following meetings were held in the city :

Serial No., date and place	Auspices	Audience
2. 29th August 1931	Bombay Provincial Congress Committee.	50,000

Speakers	Remarks
K. F. Nariman (President), M. Mr. M. K. Gandhi	K. Gandhi advised the people to observe the truce terms, to follow the creed of non-violence and to ply Charkha.

Page 1791, para. 5166 (1, 2, 3) —

Surat, September 5.—The departure of Mr. M. K. Gandhi to England for the Round Table Conference has relieved the tension in the political atmosphere considerably. All eyes are now on Bardoli where selected Congress workers and pleaders from outside are busy visiting villages and collecting their necessary material for the forthcoming enquiry.

(2) *Belgaum, September 5.*—Two or three meetings are reported in connection with Mr. Gandhi's departure for London. It was stated that Mr. Gandhi only decided to go when he got what he wanted out of Government—the implication being that Government, as usual, had to climb down in face of the Congress.

(3) *Dharwar, September 5.*—The Congress agitators seem to be under the impression that in view of the political situation in England Mr. Gandhi's mission will prove abortive and are encouraging the people to follow the constructive programme of the Congress and ginger up Congress activities regarding boycott of foreign cloth and liquor and toddy with a view to strengthen the hands of Gandhi at the Round Table Conference.

Page 2117, para. 5602—

Bombay City, S. B., November 9.—The emergency meeting of the Working Committee of the Congress was held at Shri Ram Mansion on November 7 and 8, 1931, under the presidentship of Vallabhbhai J. Patel.

The Working Committee considered the following cable received from Mr. Gandhi:

" Bengal repression and other things disturb me. Realise helplessness here. Nevertheless regard presence here necessary and thereafter travelling Continent. This may mean inability reach home before middle January. Send considered opinion."

The Committee after carefully considering the above cable came to the conclusion that in view of the attitude taken by most of the delegates of the Round Table Conference, Mr. Gandhi's further participation in the deliberations was not really necessary. It, however, left the final decision to Mr. Gandhi since he was on the spot and was in a better position to judge the situation himself. Regarding the programme on the Continent the Committee was of opinion that a long tour in the present circumstances was inadvisable but as he was going to have a short tour the Committee favoured the idea as it would be helpful in creating international opinion. The following resolution was then adopted.

" The Working Committee considered a cablegram from Mahatma Gandhi regarding his future programme. The Committee have authorised the

President to cable to him to the effect that his further continuance in the Conference appeared to be unnecessary; but in view of various facts and circumstances which were better known to him as he is on the spot, the Committee left its final decision to him. Further the Committee drew Gandhiji's attention to the rapidly worsening situation in Bengal, the Frontier Province, the United Provinces and elsewhere. The Committee was of opinion that an early return to India, was desirable and a long Continental tour would be inadvisable."

Page 2203, para. 5783—

S. B., Bombay Presidency, Poona, December 19.—(1) The incitement of peasants against paying land revenue continue to be the most important part of Congress propaganda; as the District Superintendent of Police, Kolaba District observes, " An awkward situation for Government is brewing between the tenants on the one hand and the landholders on other. If, as is not improbable, agitators take the line of combining tenants and landholders and present a joint front, there will be more serious potentialities."

Agitation of this nature is reported from Nasik, Kolaba, Poona and Sholapur districts in particular.

The District Superintendent of Police, Ahmedabad observes, " The following appreciation of the political situation by Vallabhbhai J. Patel has been obtained from a reliable source : ' M. K. Gandhi will land at Bombay on December 28; and will leave for Ahmedabad the same night. The Working Committee will meet at Ahmedabad on December 30. (*Note.*—The venue has since been changed to Bombay.) The no-rent campaign in the United Provinces will continue in the meantime. Congress will not revive Civil Disobedience immediately, but the situation will be reviewed at the next meeting of the All-India Congress at Puri in March 1932, after which the movement will be renewed, if necessary.

As regards the situation in Bengal no definite plans have been made. Gandhi is reported to have discussed the situation with the Prime Minister and Lord Sankey who, according to V. J. Patel, are not in favour of the latest Ordinance. Gandhi is said to have suggested to the Prime Minister that he should either resign or instruct the Government of India not to put the Ordinance into operation. It was suggested that Gandhi should tour Bengal early next year with a view to prevent terrorist crime. But Congress circles are very doubtful of the result of such a mission as they fear that Gandhi and Congress will be denounced in Bengal.

It is generally believed that full provincial autonomy will be granted in 1932 followed by complete responsibility at the centre, shortly after. Generally speaking, Congress circles are jubilant over the result obtained at

the Round Table Conference though they outwardly state that the concessions granted fall short of their aspirations.

V. J. Patel seems rather annoyed that troops should do a demonstration march through Kaira District, and stated that school teachers had been instructed by officials to turn out their children to welcome the troops and garland the officers.'

V. J. Patel will leave for Bombay on December 13."

Jairamdas Daulatram has also given his opinion privately as regards the present political situation as follows : " So far as I can make out from Mahatmaji's pronouncement he is not anxious to start the fight immediately unless his hands are forced by Government action. The development in the United Provinces, the Frontier Province and Bengal may precipitate matters."

BOMBAY SECRET ABSTRACT

1932

Page 87, para. 125—

Bombay City, December 30, 1931.—At 3 p.m. on December 30, 1931, the members of the Working Committee named below met at Mani Bhuwan, Laburnam Road. No outsider was allowed except Subhash Chandra Bose, C. Rajgopalachari, Govind Vallabh Pant, Dr. Pattabi Sitarammayya, Konda Venkatappaya and Gopa Bandhu Chowdhari who were specially invited :

Vallabhbhai J. Patel, M. K. Gandhi, Dr. M. A. Ansari, Abul Kalam Azad, Babu Rajendra Prasad, Madhavrao S. Aney, Dr. Mohamed Alam, Dr. Syed Mahmood, K. F. Nariman, Jamnalal Bajaj and Jairamdas Daulatram Alimchandani.

The Working Committee unanimously passed resolution of condolence regarding the death of Mr. Gandhi's life-long friend and co-worker, the late Imam Saheb Bawazir. The Committee discussed the situation in Bengal and heard the views of Subhash Chandra Bose who urged the necessity of resorting to the boycott of British goods. Subhash Bose drew Mr. Gandhi's attention to the indifference shown by the Congress Working Committee towards Bengal's grievances ; some members of the Working Committee were in favour of defensive satyagraha, but Mr. Gandhi was not prepared to agree to that course without first ascertaining the real intention of the Government of India. Eventually the Working Committee agreed with Gandhi's arguments that the truce was not officially declared broken and

that therefore the Government should be consulted. It was decided to send a telegram to His Excellency the Viceroy enquiring whether the promulgation of Ordinances in the United Provinces and North-West Frontier Province meant the end of the truce and whether His Excellency would see Gandhi in the matter. The Committee adjourned to 9-30 a.m. this morning.

December 31, 1931.—The Congress Working Committee met again yesterday and continued discussion on the developments in Bengal, United Provinces and the North-West Frontier Province. Mr. Gandhi is collecting details of the situation in each Province for his own guidance, and had advised the members to have patience. He also advised the Maharashtra leaders, who are holding Provincial Conference in Panvel in a couple of days not to take any hasty step until the Congress Working Committee has given its decision.

January 2.—The Working Committee of the Congress received His Excellency the Viceroy's reply on December 31. After reading it the members declared that it was unsatisfactory. They, however, continued their deliberations behind closed doors up to 2 a.m. on the morning of January 1, when they issued a statement to the press giving their decision to launch the civil disobedience movement again and placing before the public a clear-cut programme. Extracts from the *Bombay Chronicle*, dated January 2, 1932, giving full statement, including Mr. Gandhi's telegram and His Excellency the Viceroy's reply thereto, are reproduced below. On January 1, the members of the Working Committee again met and after a whole day's deliberations passed resolutions appealing to all nations, Commercial associations, zamindars and the millowners, explaining the attitude of the Congress and soliciting their support in furtherance of the programme of civil disobedience laid before the public by the Working Committee that morning. Extracts from the *Free Press Journal*, dated January 2, 1932, giving the text of the resolutions adopted are also given below.

The Working Committee was dissolved yesterday evening and the members were permitted to return to their Provinces. Mr. Gandhi has been staying on for a couple of days expecting a reply from His Excellency the Viceroy to his telegram and anticipating his arrest. A good number of people have been visiting Mr. Gandhi as it is commonly believed that he would soon be arrested. Dr. Ansari, Dr. Pattabi Sitarammayya, Konda Venkatayya, Babu Rajendra Prasad, Dr. Syed Mahmood and Abul Kalam Azad left yesterday for their homes. Sardul Singh, C. Rajgopalachari and B. Samba Murti left for Madras to-day. M. S. Aney left for Panvel by motor. Subhash Chandra Bose is leaving to-day for Calcutta by the Nagpur Mail at 4-45 p.m.

A deputation of cloth merchants and other commercial associations waited on Mr. Gandhi yesterday. They were asked by Mr. Gandhi to help the

movement and many of them are reported to have agreed to help him in the matter of the boycott programme of the Congress.

Page 110, para. 164—

(1) *Bombay City, S. B., December 29, 1931.*—A good deal of enthusiasm was noticed on the morning of December 28 when large crowds of people were seen thronging the route of the procession by which Mr. Gandhi was to pass. By 6 a.m. the route from Laburnum Road the Mole Station was lined by the reception volunteers who included even children below 12. The route was decorated particularly at Shaikh Memon Street, Bhuleshwar and Bazaar Gate. About 500 female volunteers in saffron saris were in attendance from Central Hall to the Green Gate. At 8-25 a.m. the S. S. Pilsna came alongside the Mole and the members of the Working Committee, namely Vallabhbhai Patel, Dr. M. A. Ansari, Abul Kalam Azad, K. F. Nariman, Sardar Sardul Singh, M. S. Aney, Jairamdas Daulatram Alimchandani, Dr. Syed Mahmood and other prominent persons such as C. Rajgopalachari, Abbas Tyebji, Pattabi Sitarammayya, Subhash Bose, Pandit Sunderlal, B. Samba Murti, K. M. Munshi, Mrs. Gandhi, Revd. Elwin, Dr. N. S. Hardikar, Mrs. Munshi, Mrs. Perin Captain and Manilal Kothari boarded the steamer. After Mrs. Munshi had garlanded Mr. Gandhi the party disembarked and proceeded the central hall from where after reception on behalf of various associations, Mr. Gandhi and the members of the Working Committee drove in procession along the route prescribed.

In the early hours of the morning of December 28 there was a free fight on Ballard Road which resulted in severe injury to Purshottamdas Trikamdas and one or two other Congressmen by the depressed classes who had come there to make a hostile demonstration. The arrival of the police saved the situation and a good number of the depressed classes had to be dispersed and disarmed of their lathis.

The depressed class members while returning were assaulted by some persons in the Colaba Wadi at about 11 a.m. About 75 red-flaggers led by B. T. Randive, S. V. Deshpande and others held a hostile demonstration on the morning of December 28 along some portions of the route with red flags shouting " Boycott Gandhi ".

Public welcome to Mr. Gandhi was given on the evening of December 28 by Vallabhbhai Patel on behalf of the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee on the Esplanade Maidan. The whole maidan from Dhobi Talao to Waudby Road was full of people. Loud-speakers were installed to enable the crowds to listen to the speeches. A very large number of volunteers, both male and female, maintained order at the meeting which lasted only for half an hour. Almost all the members of the Working Committee and the members

of the Bombay Provincial Congress committee were present. Mr. Vallabh-bhai Patel made a short speech extending hearty welcome to Mr. Gandhi and saying that the country was glad to receive him back although he returned empty-handed. Mr. Gandhi addressed the meeting from a specially constructed rostrum on one side of Waudby Road. At the outset he said that he was unaware of the arrest of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Abdul Gaffar Khan till he arrived in Bombay. He considered these events as Christmas presents from the Viceroy. The question before them was whether they should launch a campaign of Satyagraha or whether they should try some other means in view of the action of Government. He could not decide that question without consulting the Congress Working Committee but he would only say that if the Congress Working Committee decided to renew the fight, he would not hesitate to ask the people to join it; but if there was any possibility of avoiding Satyagraha he would do his utmost to do so. He advised patience. He then spoke on the efficacy of non-violence and the importance of fighting Government with love. He condemned the Comilla outrage and said that those young girls had no right to take the life of anybody. A satyagrahi should be prepared to suffer without retaliation. He condemned the policy of Government for the Ordinance for which, he said, there was no justification. His visit to England had convinced him of his full faith in nonviolence. Another thing that he learnt in England was the view the British Cabinet held regarding India. The British Cabinet honestly believed that India was unfit for Swaraj and that communal problem should be solved before the goal was achieved. He would try his best to settle the communal question and safeguard the interests of the minorities including the untouchables. If he was free he would place before the public an account of what he did in London in connection with the Round Table Conference. For the present he had to tell the people that if there was a fight, they should be prepared for every sacrifice including the facing of the bullets but at the same time they should take the pledge that they would do no harm to others. He would do all that lay within his power to prevent another fiery ordeal; but if he found that there was no other way, he would not hesitate to call upon the people to go through the ordeal regardless of the magnitude of sufferings.

(2) *Bombay Suburban District, January 2.*—M. K. Gandhi and his wife went to Santa Cruz to see their nephew, Venilal Marutilal Gandhi of Santa Cruz, on January 2. M. K. Gandhi was garlanded by G. B. Yogi. Some 50 persons were present.

Page 177, para. 235—

Bombay City S. B., January 5.—Since the receipt of His Excellency the Viceroy's reply stating that Government would take all measures necessary to put down subversive activities and refusing to give an interview demanded under threat of revival of civil disobedience movement, rumours were thick

in the City that Mr. Gandhi would be arrested any moment. He therefore put before the public the plan of action to be put into effect in the event of his arrest through an interview with the " Chronicle " representatives.

The plan of action is as under :

" What I would ask the nation to do after my arrest declared Gandhiji, is to wake up from its sleep " ; and

1. To discard at once all foreign cloth and take to khaddar ;
2. To discard all drugs, narcotics and intoxicant drinks;
3. To discard every trace of violence and give absolute protection to every Englishman, woman or child whether official or otherwise, no matter how provocative the action of officials may be;
4. To withdraw from the Government every form of Co-operation that is possible for every individual; and
5. To study the resolution of the Working Committee and carry it out to the letter and in the spirit and in that process suffer all hardships that they may be put to, including loss of life and property.

Plan of Action

It is difficult to lay down one rule for the whole of India, Gandhiji added. But it seems to me that since the Congress has adopted the method of self-purification through non-violence, I should begin by hartal, that is voluntary suspension of all works for profit and undergo a prayerful fast and then being simultaneously civil disobedience, in such manner as may be possible in each locality, such as (a) Unlicensed manufacture of salt, (b) Picketing of liquor and foreign cloth shops, (c) Breach of orders under section 144 and the like when there is no likelihood of breach of peace and where orders have been issued not out of any legal necessity but manifestly for the sake of crushing the spirit of the people of what is the same thing as suppressing the Congress.

Questioned if the work of carrying on the behests of the Congress would not prove difficult, if as already contemplated, all listed Congress workers were removed from the field of action Gandhiji commented, " The resolution of the Working Committee was framed to cover the difficulty raised. The situation will develop so suddenly that it is not possible to be more definite than the resolution. After experience of 12 years of satyagraha in a more or less acute form, individuals are expected to know what the change in circumstances will require. Last years experience shows that in spite of the

imprisonment of almost all the leaders the nation showed marvellous resourcefulness in the emergency as it arose and kept up the spirit of civil defiance."

' When his attention was drawn to the possibility of opposition to Congress from certain classes of Indians the Mahatma said that some handicap there naturally must be whenever there is internal opposition but all these difficulties will dissolve in the fire of suffering without hatred whether towards the administrators or towards our own people, whether they oppose or are indifferent to the movement."

Gandhi and Vallabhbhai were arrested in Bombay on January 4, and were removed to the Yeravda Jail.

Page 182, para. 245—

Vide para. 5738 of 1931, (2) Bombay City S. B., January 5.—Before Mr. Gandhi's arrest on the morning of January 4, a tentative list of nominees for Congress presidentship was submitted by Vallabhbhai Patel to Mr. Gandhi. The latter approved of the list and suggested that the following conditions should be imposed :

(1) All nominations should be subject to the consent of the nominees;

(2) It is presumed that those on the list who will consent to serve will abide by the rules and regulations of the Congress and specially the Congress creed of truth and non-violence. An exclusive use of khaddar is the minimum qualification for the exercise of the Congress franchise; and

(3) These nominees shall in no way bind the Congress or the country by negotiating with the Government on their own authority. On all occasions of negotiations they shall insist on the Government negotiating direct with the original Working Committee.

Page 807, para. 1765—

S. B., Bombay Presidency, Poona, December 10.—This Conference which is also concerned with untouchability is being held in Poona on December 10 and 11 with Jamnadas M. Mehta as President and five Secretaries who include, C. B. Agarwal, a barrister, and Shankarrao Deo. The Conveners are in favour of the removal of untouchability but do not wish to go the whole hog at once. They are not on the whole in agreement with the decisions arrived at Allahabad in which they consider the Hindus have made unnecessary concessions to the Muhammadans. Many of those concerned have connections with the Hindu Maha Sabha but have adopted a name for the Conference which will not bind a Hindu Maha Sabha to any decisions arrived at during the Conference.

There is a clash of three parties on this questions in Poona. At the one extreme is Mr. Gandhi who insists that untouchability must not remain in

any form and that untouchables must be treated on precisely the same terms as caste-Hindus. At the other extreme are the Sanatanists and the Varnashrama Swarajiya Sangh which holds fast to the religions of the Vedas. In between is the party lead by L. B. Bhopatkar and S. M. Mate who desire to admit the untouchables as far as the main assembly hall provided the untouchables concerned have given up meat-eating. This party of the so-called " Reformed Sanatanists " has issued a leaflet on December 8 stating its views and giving an account of its interview with Mr. Gandhi.

The following extracts go to the heart of the Interview :

Mr. Mate : Suppose we do not follow you but undertake a propaganda to allow the untouchables entry up to the assembly hall, will you not bless our movement ?

Mr. Gandhi : No, I won't.

Mr. Mate : If we continue our Propaganda will you consider it as an obstruction to or retarding of your movement ?

Mr. Gandhi : I will simply not curse you. Will it not suffice ? The third party appears to be gaining some strength in Maharashtra.

Page 820, para. 1810 (5)—

Poona.—Anti-Untouchability Day, December 18, produced a few meetings and magic lantern shows. Attendance were below 300.

From Benares and other parts of India certain Pro-and Anti-Gandhi Sanatani Shastries held discussions with Mr. Gandhi in Yeravda Jail on December 23 and 24 (1932). It is understood that Mr. Gandhi still claims to have an impartial mind in the matter of untouchables entering temples, though his impartiality does not extend to those who hold views other than his.

Page 821, para. 1811—

From the Delhi Police Abstract of Intelligence, dated December 3, 1932, para. 556

A meeting of Congress workers was held under Shankar Lal Banker of Ahmedabad, General Secretary of the All-India Spinners Association. Important persons present were Dr. Yudhvirsingh, Brij Krishen Chandiwalla, Desh Bandhu Gupta, Professor Indra, Dr. Sukh Deo and Piari Lai Bhatnagar. It was deplored that many influential Congress workers had become afraid of arrest and were doing " untouchability " propaganda only. Shankar Lal is believed to have said that he had warned Mr. Gandhi about this and he had been asked by him to explain to Congress workers everywhere that " untouchability " work should not be allowed to interfere with other Congress work. It was agreed to make efforts to revive agitation in January 1933 by picketing and other methods.

Section I
HOME DEPARTMENTS RECORDS

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (57), pp. 99-111]

VERY SECRET

EXPRESS LETTER

From

H. W. Emerson, Esq., C.I.E., C.B.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of India ;

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department (Political).

No. D. 797/31-Poll
New Delhi the 28th January 1931

1. The Government of India consider it desirable to address Local Governments regarding possible developments arising out of release of Congress leaders and demand for amnesty. The present position is that the leaders have been released in order to give them opportunity of discussing situation created by Prime Minister's announcement and of reaching a decision as to whether they will abandon the civil disobedience movement in favour of constitutional methods and co-operation in the further discussions relating to constitutional reforms. It is believed that decision of Working Committee held recently at Allahabad was against co-operation, but that there was considerable support for the contrary view. In any case the Working Committee are under an engagement to Sapru, etc., not to publish the decision until the delegates from the Round Table Conference reach India, and it is to be hoped that in the meantime they will not commit themselves to a wrong line of action.

While it cannot at present be said that indications are in favour of peace, the prospects are by no means hopeless and there are forces at work which may have important effects. Among the adverse influences may be mentioned (a) the intractability of some of the Congress leaders and of the extreme left; (b) irritation that the Round Table Conference should have achieved such important results ; (c) the bitterness of feeling created by events of past 10 months ; (d) the belief that the civil disobedience movement and especially the boycott of British goods has had a powerful effect; (e) the impression that His Majesty's Governments and Governments in India may make concessions, if sufficient pressure continues to be brought to bear. On the other side are : (a) the undoubted impression caused by Prime Minister's statement and the prospects it opens up ; (b) a wide-spread desire to take advantage of the opportunities for responsible Government it offers ; (c) the influence of the moderate Press and politicians ; (d) the dissipation to a great extent of suspicion regarding attitude of His Majesty's Governments and

British political parties ; (e) the optimistic views of Indian delegates to the Round Table Conference ; (f) the influence of these delegates on their return to India ; (g) a wide-spread feeling of weariness in regard to the civil disobedience movement ; (h) and increasing unwillingness on the part of the Commercial community to contribute towards the movement.

2. What will be the resultant of these forces it is difficult to say. Unforeseen events or incidents may easily have effects out of proportion to their intrinsic importance. It is therefore quite impracticable to forecast what may happen and the most that can be done is to indicate possible developments. Among the situations that may emerge are the following :

(a) blank refusal on the part of the leaders to co-operate and a reaffirmation of their intention to continue the civil disobedience movement for attainment of independence ;

(b) a split among them in which it may or may not be possible to estimate with any degree of certainty which party is the stronger ;

(c) refusal to express any opinion until—

(1) all the following are released, or

(2) the matter can be referred to the All-India Congress Committee, or

(3) to a full session of the Congress ;

(d) attempts by the leaders to obtain assurances on various matters before they express any opinion ;

(e) a definite expression of opinion on the part of the Working Committee in favour of peace subject to certain conditions.

3. The view of the Government of India is that so far as is compatible with other considerations the way should be made as easy as possible for the other side to come to the right decision. They are fully alive to the possibilities that Congress leaders may not in fact desire peace, but in any event the Government of India feel that within the limit open to them they should so act as to leave no doubt if peace efforts fail, where the responsibility for such failure rests. They consider therefore that the atmosphere which should, if possible, be created is one in which there is a frank recognition of each other's difficulties where irritating conditions should be avoided on the one side and unreasonable demands on the other. Governments are more likely to avoid the presentation of the latter if they themselves are prepared to be as accommodating as circumstances will permit. It will, in particular, be necessary to avoid placing Congress in a position, which pride and sentiment will prevent them from accepting. For this reason the ultimate settlement, if one is reached, will almost certainly involve simultaneity of action, e.g. release of non-violent prisoners and other action on the part of Government simultaneously with the abandonment of the civil disobedience movement.

This, it will be observed, may be held to go somewhat further than the formula stated in the Prime Minister's announcement which contemplated that civil quiet would be proclaimed and assured but the Government of India are convinced that any attempt to place Congress on probation before Government themselves take liberal action will inevitably result in failure. They consider that the test for liberal action should be not the actual and complete establishment of peaceful conditions, but a measure of assurance that such conditions will be established sufficient to justify action. There need not necessarily be a complete absence of risk, but on the balance of considerations the degree of risk should be such as could reasonably be taken in view of the importance of the issues at stake.

The Government of India, in short, contemplate a dynamic situation in which it may be necessary at very short notice to come to a decision as to whether the psychological moment for action has or has not arisen. They will probably have to rely to a considerable extent on local Governments for information regarding the relevant factors and for advice regarding the weight to be attached to them. They would therefore request local Governments to keep them in close touch with developments and to be prepared at short notice to communicate their views. The Government of India will, so far as possible keep local Governments informed and will give them as much notice as is practicable of matters requiring decision.

4. Delay in reaching decisions will be much reduced if there is preliminary agreement on as many points as possible and the immediate object of this letter is to secure this. The questions that are likely to arise include the following :

A. *A general amnesty*.—The views of the Government of India are—

(1) That as already explained action on these lines depends upon a measure of assurance that peaceful conditions will be established sufficient to justify action. In other words an essential condition is that Government should be able to predicate with reasonable certainty that the civil disobedience movement will be effectively abandoned.

(2) The prisoners to whom the amnesty extends should not include persons convicted of offences involving actual violence or incitement to such. In particular it should not relate to anyone directly concerned with the terrorist movement. On the other hand, the test of violence would not be applied so as to exclude from the amnesty persons who have been only technically guilty of offences of violence and whose release might be safely permitted. It is suggested for the consideration of local Governments that in order to obtain as large a measure as possible of uniformity of treatment in this respect and at the same time to satisfy the public in a matter to which they will attach importance, doubtful cases might be referred by each local Government to two High Court

Judges, it being understood that local Governments would have full discretion to decline to refer cases on which no doubt arose.

(3) The Government of India contemplate that the amnesty should extend only to offences in connection with civil disobedience movement and other movements closely related to it. In applying this test of connection with the civil disobedience movement the Government of India consider that as liberal a view should be taken as circumstances will permit and that, wherever possible, the benefit of the doubt should be given in favour of the prisoner.

(4) The amnesty should include the remission of fines not already realised from persons convicted in connection with the civil disobedience movement whether they are in prison or not. In regard to fines that have been realised the Government of India are not in favour of including these but if a situation were to arise in which a deadlock were likely to occur on a matter of this kind, they might have to reconsider the position. They would therefore particularly request the views of local Governments on this point which, for this purpose, may be taken to include the wider question of penalties e.g. forfeiture of security and of presses under the Press Ordinances.

(5) The Government of India are of opinion that it would be a mistake to attach conditions to the releases of individuals if it was decided on general grounds to permit them. In particular they deprecate the taking of any written undertaking from prisoners in regard to their future behaviour. Whatever logical support can be adduced for such a course they can feel no doubt that it would be the implied absence of trust that it would seem to involve, almost certainly block the way to a settlement. Unless the situation develops so as to allow Government to act in spirit of trust, they will most probably not be able to act at all.

B. Withdrawal of ordinances.—The Government of India consider that part of the action to be simultaneously taken by Government and Congress leaders should be the withdrawal of Ordinances promulgated in connection with the civil disobedience movement. While they recognise that the Press Ordinance is also directed against the terrorist movement, they consider that its retention would not be practicable.

C. Withdrawal of Notifications declaring Associations Unlawful under the Criminal Law Amendment Act.—This also should be part of the simultaneous action. It should not extend to Associations not connected with the civil disobedience movement, e.g., Associations in Burma, but here again the Government of India consider that the benefit of the doubt should be given to the association concerned.

D. *Other demands for clemency.*—These are likely to include—

(1) reinstatement of Government servants and village officers dismissed or resigned for activities in connection with the civil disobedience movement.

(2) restoration of lands which have been forfeited and sold to third persons.

Government of India consider that principle applicable to these cases should be that where restoration of the *status quo* would adversely affect the permanent rights of third parties, it should be refused ; but that in other cases a liberal view should be taken.

E. *Possible extension of scope of releases before stage of general amnesty is reached.*—

The necessity or demand for this may raise in several ways. The Congress leaders may desire to consult with a limited number of persons not so far released. Unless Government of India had good reason to believe that the request was not sincere, they would give such facilities.

Again, a stage may be reached where the leaders may wish to make a recommendation to the All-India Congress Committee. This is a body of 350 members plus certain ex-official members and it was this Committee which was authorised by Congress at the Lahore session to launch the Civil Disobedience Movement. The Government of India consider that their attitude towards a request of this kind must necessarily depend on the prospects at the time of a successful issue. If there was reasonable ground for the view that the cause of peace would be advanced by affording facilities for this, they consider that the proper course would be to grant them. The extreme demand may be made that all prisoners should be released in order that the issue may be decided by a full session of Congress. In the opinion of the Government of India this could only be granted if the condition essential to a general amnesty as stated in A (1) above were satisfied—in which case it would be granted, because the condition was satisfied and not in order to facilitate a reference to Congress as a whole.

A situation which may arise is that the Congress having abandoned the Civil Disobedience Movement and stopped all activities connected with it, then attempt to revive it on the ground that decisions on matters of constitutional importance are unacceptable. The Government of India would therefore particularly ask for an appreciation by local Governments of the ability of the Congress to reorganise their Civil Disobedience Movement if it were once effectively abandoned.

6. The above appear to be the main questions which are likely to arise, but it is not possible to foresee all contingencies. Government of India will

be grateful if local Governments will communicate their views on the questions of principle involved and on the specific points mentioned or on any other points which local Governments consider likely to arise. They would request replies by telegram as early as possible, but except in regard to matters on which the opinion of local Government is specifically requested, the replies may be confined, if local Governments so wish, to points of disagreement and to relevant matters not included in this letter.

(Sd.) H. W. EMERSON,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Copies sent to H. M. and H. E. (P. S. G.).

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES
30th January 1931

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (57) ,p.117]

Herewith the reply to the Government of India. It is to go as an express letter not as a telegram. If it is too late to be registered to-day, perhaps arrangements could be made to send it with the guard of the train; are the Delhi people asked to send to take delivery. Or the post office might make special arrangements.

H. E. has approved of the draft.

(Sd.) HOTSON

Mr. Collins has seen.

Please dispatch as soon as possible.

(Sd.) HOTSON
31st January

The reply was sent as an express letter by registered post today. The letter was signed by me for Secretary. Should copies be sent to H. M. and P. S. G.*

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES
31st January 1931

Secretary for information.

* A : Please send copies to-day.

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS
1st February

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (57), p. 119]

SECRET

EXPRESS LETTER

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 31st January 1931

No. S.D. 599

From

The Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department (Political) ;

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department (Political).

Your express letter No. D. 797/31-Poll of January 28.

In considering proposal for amnesty and concessions to political opponents it is essential to bear in mind effect likely to be produced on those members of public, not few in number, who have remained loyal to Government, on the minority parties, who are satisfied with Prime Minister's announcement and who now, and not the Congress, undoubtedly constitute the majority of the whole country, and on the services, especially the humbled members who have stuck heroically to their posts in face of insult, social boycott and physical danger. Towards the end of your letter you enquire whether Congress could set civil disobedience going again if it had once been abandoned. Whatever the answer to that may be, it is beyond doubt that we could never hope again to control the agitation if our servants were depressed and humiliated by a surrender to Congress. It is therefore of first importance that settlement should be such as to leave no doubt that Congress have abandoned civil disobedience and to avoid all suggestion of a drawn battle or a victory for Congress. This being granted, terms should certainly be such as to make it as easy as possible for Congress to agree without complete loss of face or public humiliation on their side.

(1) *Amnesty*.—We consider it unsafe in apparent present temper of Congress leaders to go any further than Prime Minister's assurance, and therefore are unable to agree to simultaneity of action. There can be no measure of assurance that agitation will cease until it has been definitely called off and followers of Congress throughout country have shown willingness to obey their leaders' orders. In Gujarat, agriculturists will certainly cease no-tax campaign on a word from Gandhi or 'Sardar' Vallabhbhai. It is by no means equally certain that orders would be obeyed with unanimity in Bombay City, in Karnatak and elsewhere. On other hand it would not be necessary to require long period of probation. A few days should suffice to show temper of Congress followers. If leaders have any genuine desire for settlement, which is doubtful, they could certainly be made to understand

this point. Our attitude on this question is not theoretical. It is confirmed by reports from District officers who are already anxious regarding effects of the compromise which they feel to be in the air.

The first of the three specific points on which you ask our opinion is as regards technical offences of violence. Such cases if any have been extremely few, assuming that Government of India does not propose to classify instigation to mob violence as merely technical offence. Cases of petty assault have not been put before Courts. If on closer examination such are found to exist, Government are quite capable of disposing of them, themselves with help of their legal advisers in any difficulty. Time of High Court Judges is too valuable to be wasted on such trifling matters.

Second point is repayment of fines already recovered. We have no reason to anticipate a deadlock on this question. Practical difficulty of carrying out proposal would be very great. A penalty already paid should be regarded as closed book. There is no reason why fines should be refunded unless we are prepared to give compensation for imprisonment endured.

Third point is ability of Congress to reorganise movement once abandoned. This depends wholly on finances. If the Congress can still command support of wealthy merchants they can reorganise movement, and merchants will support Congress until economic situation is such as to convince them of advantage of return to settled conditions.

Your paragraph 4-B.—We agree that Press Ordinance must go along with others, but consider that Government of India should be prepared to re-enact it without hesitation if campaign in press in support of terrorism develops.

Your paragraph 4-D.—We distinguish cases of dismissed officials from those of officials who have resigned and consider that dismissals should only be cancelled after consideration of each individual case.

(2) *Your paragraph 4-D.*—Regarding land, Government of Bombay with full approval of Government of India have given assurance to purchasers of forfeited land that in no circumstances will they be required to give up their land. It is absolutely impossible to go back upon this assurance to even the smallest extent. As to forfeited land which has not been regranted, it must be made clear that it can only be restored on our own terms which would certainly include full payment of all outstandings.

In the foregoing we have only discussed points on which opinion specifically asked and those on which we differ from your proposals in whole or part.

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

Copies sent to H. M. and P. S. G.

H. M.'s Note—

I mentioned to Secretary this morning that it has been decided that the released Congress leaders are not again to be arrested without a previous reference to H. E. the Viceroy.

We have better get orders out—there does not seem to be any urgent need to send telegram. Express letters should suffice.

If Secretary has difficulties in drafting we can talk it over tomorrow morning.

(Sd.) J. E. B. HOTSON
24th February 1931

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (57), p. 365]

CONFIDENTIAL

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

HOME DEPARTMENT

New Delhi, the 23rd of March 1931

My dear Collins,

I enclose for the confidential information of the local Government a copy of a note of a discussion between Mr. Gandhi and myself, which took place on the 19th of March. I should be grateful if you could let me know briefly the facts about the Sholapur prisoners.

2. In regard to delay in the payment of land revenue in Gujarat, Mr. Gandhi assured me that it was not the intention of Congress that payment should be evaded on grounds of economic distress by persons who are able to pay. Would you kindly let us know if evasion of this kind continues ? During my talk with him I mentioned the case of the ex-communication of the liquor licensee in the Surat district, and I have since written to him about it in connection with your letter No. S.D.-1954 of the 17th of March, which I received after our talk. He promised to get this put right. As my letter is not likely to reach him while he is in Delhi, there may be a little delay. Will you kindly let me know in due course if the ex-communication continues ?

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) H. W. EMERSON

G. F. S. COLLINS, Esq., G.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department (Political).

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (57), p. 367]

Gandhi-Emerson Talk

I had a talk for about three hours with Mr. Gandhi this evening relating to difficulties arising out of the settlement. I made it clear throughout that any opinions which I expressed were my own and not those of Government. Mr. Gandhi first mentioned the points he desired to bring to the notice to Government which were as follows :

(a) He mentioned the case of the Raja of Kalakankar, in which, according to the A. P. I. message, elephants, motors, etc. had been attached for arrears of land revenue. He stated that he did not himself know the facts of the case, but did know that the Raja was a Congress sympathiser. He had, he said, written to ascertain the facts. I said that Government had no information but that I personally thought it probable that the attachment had been made in the ordinary course of land revenue administration and that, if this was so, the settlement did not of course affect cases of this kind, since the revenue administration must pursue its normal course. I promised to ascertain the facts.

(b) He next mentioned a case that occurred some months ago in the District of Kolaba in connection with Forest Satyagraha when in the course of a riot a Mamlatdar was accidentally shot by the police. The case, he said, was now under trial in the Sessions Court, to which it had been committed. According to his information, no provocation had been given by the accused and some of them certainly had not committed actual violence. He suggested that this case against these accused, at any rate, should be withdrawn. I told him that I had not seen the papers for some months ; but my recollection was that the case was one of serious violence in which the police had had considerable difficulty in escaping and that, so far as I remembered, one or two Forest Guards had been killed. I explained that this was not a case which we could possibly represent to the local Government and that, in so far as the Government and Congress versions differed the court would decide.

(c) He then got on to the question of whether offences under section 124-A, Indian Penal Code and 108, Criminal Procedure Code came within the terms of the amnesty. His contention was that all such cases did come within it and that offences involving incitement to violence should only be regarded as exceptions, if the result of the incitement had been actual violence. He also urged that where the incitement has not

resulted in violence it should be regarded as technical. I explained to him that, so far as I was concerned, there was no room for misunderstanding, since when technical violence was included in the amnesty the intention was made quite clear, and I mentioned the illustration that had been given when the settlement was being discussed, namely, that convictions for rioting would have to be examined on their merits and that, while a trivial fracas might properly be regarded as coming within the term " technical violence ", a serious riot could not be so regarded, and that all persons who were concerned in it whether they had been guilty of actual violence or not, would be excluded from the amnesty. He admitted that this was so, but said that he had not realised that section 124-A, Indian Penal Code and section 108, Criminal Procedure Code would come within the exceptions. I explained that under both the sections there were cases in which persons had been prosecuted for speeches which included incitement to serious violence and that, while it could not always, or indeed ordinarily, be said that the direct result was violence, there was no doubt that speeches of this sort had gained recruits to the terrorist movement and so had been indirectly responsible for violence. In any case the criterion of actual violence had not been adopted. I said that the matter was not one merely of interpretation but of great practical importance, and I took the opportunity of stating to him the position in the Punjab and in Delhi. I mentioned the meetings in Lahore and in Amritsar, the general campaign there had been in favour of Bhagat Singh and violence generally, and the apprehensions of the local Government that a serious situation would arise. I told him that I had just received a letter from the Punjab Government giving accounts of speeches made by Dr. Satyapal and Sardul Singh Kaveeshwar, both of whom were members of the Working Committee. I said that the local Government had held its hands in the desire to avoid action which was likely to prejudice the settlement, and that we had told them that, while the Government of India naturally hoped that the necessity of action would not arise, we did not desire to fetter their discretion if circumstances so required and that it was no part of the settlement that action should not be taken under the ordinary law against persons who violated it. Mr. Gandhi agreed that this was so. I then mentioned the case of Delhi, told him of the meeting in honour of Chandra Shekhar Azad and the concern of the Chief Commissioner that the situation might deteriorate, and that it might be necessary to prohibit meetings. I said that we were anxious, if possible, to avoid resort to the Seditious Meetings Act, but that we could not allow a situation of danger to arise, and that if excitement grew, we might have no alternative ; but in that case we would, so far as possible, restrict the use of the Act to meetings in support of violence. I then asked him if he had seen in the papers that the Governor-General in Council had rejected the petition for mercy on behalf of Bhagat Singh. He said that he had and that he was apprehensive

regarding the consequences. I did not mention the date on which the execution would be carried out; but I did explain to him that the question as to whether it should take place before or after the Karachi Congress had been very seriously considered by Government who realised the difficulties of either course, but thought it would have been unfair to the condemned persons to postpone execution and also not fair to Gandhi to allow the impression to gain ground that commutation was under *(consideration when this was not so. He agreed that of the two alternatives it is better not to wait, but he suggested, though not seriously, that the third course of commutation of the sentences would have been better still). He did not seem to me to be particularly concerned about the matter. I told him that we should be lucky if we get through without disorder and I asked him to do all that he could to prevent meetings being held in Delhi during the next few days and to restrain violent speeches. He promised to do what he could.

I then applied these facts to the matter under discussion, namely, inclusion of all cases under section 124-A, Indian Penal Code, and section 108, Criminal Procedure Code, in the amnesty. I explained that we could not possibly approach local Government with a suggestion of this kind in present conditions. The violence movement was a serious menace with which we could not afford to trifle, and that, before we could even think of making a suggestion of this kind, there must be a cessation of the campaign of violence and of incitement thereto. He argued that to keep persons convicted of such offences in jail increased rather than lessened the danger by embittering feeling and he said that he would himself like an understanding by which all persons convicted before the amnesty under section 124, Indian Penal Code and 108, Criminal Procedure Code were released while no quarter was given in regard to prosecutions, to persons who preached violence in future. He said that Government's interpretation of the settlement on this point placed him in a difficult position and he would like to consider it further. The matter was left in this position, but I said that I did not think that Government could alter its position in this respect.

(d) He mentioned two specific cases under section 124-A and section 108, namely, that of the two Delhi women and of a Professor Kripalani in the United Provinces. I said that the former had been carefully examined and that it had been definitely considered that it did not come within the amnesty. In regard to Professor Kripalani, he said that he was sure that he had said nothing in his speeches which incited to violence. I said that I would ascertain the facts from the United Provinces Government. At the same time, however, I was able to give him facts

* This does not tally with his yesterday's speech at Karachi.

and figures of the action taken by the United Provinces Government which, he admitted showed the Government had acted in a very liberal spirit.

(e) He then mentioned Sholapur cases and said that, so far as he knew, no prisoners of Sholapur had been released. I said that the position in regard to Sholapur was the same as in all other cases, namely, that the test was violence or incitement to violence not being technical violence and that subject to this test there was no distinction, whether convictions were in the civil or military courts. I said that the matter was necessarily one for the discretion of the local Government and that while I imagined they would naturally take a serious view of offences connected with the outbreaks of violence, they would not exclude from the amnesty persons convicted of breaches of Martial Law regulations, etc. where no question of violence or incitement thereto arose. I promise to ascertain the position from the local Government.

(f) He then missed the question of additional police. He said that he had received complaints regarding realisation of cost after the 5th of March. I said I thought it very improbable that any such cases had occurred, but would ascertain the facts if he mentioned specific cases. He asked that where realisation had been made after the 5th owing to non-receipt of orders by District Authorities, the sum collected should be refunded. I said that I thought this was reasonable. I again made it clear to him that it has always been contemplated that some delay is likely to occur in the withdrawal of additional police and that local Governments would wait until satisfied that conditions had become normal. He agreed that this was the understanding.

2. I then mentioned various matters which from the Government point of view were causing difficulty and misunderstanding :

(a) I first mentioned the question of the boycott of Indian Mills by a system under which Congress placed on a black list those mills whose agents did not sign an agreement. I said that the principle on which Government stood was that the encouragement of Indian industries should not involve interference with the freedom of action of the individual and that my own view was that a system which involved placing a mill on a black list which did not take a certain course necessarily involved coercion amounting almost to blackmail, and further that any pressure on the consumer (which went beyond persuasion) to induce him to boycott the products of a mill, was a breach of the settlement. I also expressed the opinion that a mill, which was placed on a black list, would have civil action for damages. Mr. Gandhi said that it was not the intention to use methods other than persuasion either with the manufacturer or consumer, but he regarded it as justifiable propaganda

to let customers know that particular mills did not observe the Swadeshi creed. I explained that the Directors and Agents of mills definitely objected to a boycott list as amounting to coercion and that while, so far as I knew, they did not object to persuasion, they did most strongly object to the methods employed in the past. I said that while I did not know the views of Government on the subject, they might not object to certificates to be used for purposes of advertisements, to mills, which adopted Swadeshi creed and to the replacement of the black list by a list of Swadeshi mills—such a list being used for propaganda purposes only. He said that there would be no difficulty in this.

(b) We then discussed the new scheme for the export of foreign cloth. I said that the principle in this case was that dealers should be free from any interference with their liberty of action and that no one who did not wish to join in the scheme should be forced to do so. Also that sellers and buyers who had refrained from dealing in foreign cloth should be left free without any form of restraint to change their attitude if they so wished. He said quite definitely that this was the intention. I said that I could conceive that there might be dealers who were honestly convinced that the sale of their stocks of foreign cloth in India was contrary to the good of the country and who, therefore, had real scruples against selling it and that, in cases of this kind I myself saw no ground on which objection could be taken. I then quoted to him a reported speech of B. Rajendra Prasad of Patna, made on the 10th of March, in which the following passage occurred :

" A word to the merchants. They should not suppose that the effect of the truce was to give them perfect liberty to sell and import British cloth. The speaker was aware that they had suffered and he was grateful for the help that they had given. But what was the suffering of the rich merchants compared to that of poor people who had lost their all, whose houses had been looted and everything found either taken away or destroyed. The merchants had at least ten years' notice not to deal in foreign cloth and if they suffered no one else was to blame, but the Congress was anxious to see that some way was found to Save them from ruin or heavy loss. *The way however, could not be to permit them to sell their stocks in India.* Mahatmaji was in consultation with business magnates of Calcutta, Bombay, Ahmedabad and Delhi and other places to devise a scheme which would enable the existing stock to be disposed of outside India. It was a very big scheme as it involved 10 or 12 crores worth of foreign cloth, and there was a likelihood of loss even when the scheme was put through. This will have to be borne by dealers and possibly a way would be found to give some relief. They had to wait and see how the thing developed."

I said that the sentence underlined seemed to me to be quite inconsistent with Mr. Gandhi's position. He said that this was in fact not so and that he himself had taken the same line with merchants who asked him for permission to deal in foreign cloth. He explained that it was contrary to the Congress creed specifically to give such permission, since this would amount to repudiation of the doctrine to which they attach great importance, that it was one thing for Congress to recognise that merchants were free to do as they liked and another thing for the Congress specifically to accord this permission. I then asked him how merchants were to know how they stood, and said that Government regarded it as essential that they should be in no doubt on this point. He said that he had no objection whatever to Government making the position clear. He added that, so far as he knew, there were not any doubts on the matter and that the hesitation of merchants to deal freely in foreign cloth was due to uncertainty as to what might happen in the future. I pointed out that in accordance with what had been said in (b) above the description of the scheme which relates to the certification of hand-loom cloth made for such Indian mills as may not be under the Congress ban " would have to be expressed in different terms since no question of a Congress ban now arose ". Mr. Gandhi agreed.

(c) On the general question of the boycott of foreign cloth he was quite candid and said that he had no doubt himself that the movement would gain great momentum without resort to coercion or pressure, that Indian and English mill-owners were convinced of the benefit to them selves of the swadeshi movement and that before long those who had so far stood out would voluntarily come in. He appeared to be firmly convinced that the propaganda he intended to pursue would have very big results, and he pointed out quite truly that the boycott on an extensive scale of a particular class of goods must, however unobjectionable the methods might be, influence the dealers in their future course of business and so indirectly affect their freedom of action. He was very vague about the export scheme and admitted that details had not been v/orked out. His chief argument in support of it was that men like Sir Ness Wadia had accepted it as workable.

(d) I then got on to the more difficult question of what seemed to me failure on the part of the Congress to observe the general spirit of the settlement. I repeated what I had told Gandhi when I first met him that if a settlement was to be a merely paper one without any intention on the part of Congress honestly to try and find a solution of constitutional problems, then it was better not to have one at all that it was not possible for Government to stand by and watch Congress definitely organizing for a fight with no real wish to obtain peace. I mentioned in this connection various points that I myself regarded with uneasiness e.g.,

Pandit Jawaharlal's circular No. 12 ; the message to the peasants of Ray-bareilly ; what appeared to be a movement in the United Provinces to replace a no-tax campaign as part of the civil disobedience movement by similar campaign on economic grounds; various speeches of Pandit Jawaharlal ; references to a " truce " with a preconceived idea that no final settlement would be attained ; talks of a future war and references to Government as opponents and enemies. I also mentioned the way in which Congress had attempted to exploit the settlement as a victory. Gandhi saw nothing objectionable in circular No. 12 and said that he could not dismiss the possibility that peace would not ultimately be reached. At the same time, he fully accepted the position that it was wrong to refer to the settlement as a truce, to talk about a future war, to prejudge the issues and to refer Government as enemies and opponents. He also expressed disapproval of the exploitation of the settlement by Congress as victory.

I told him that I was particularly disquieted by the indication of a campaign of the Congress in the United Provinces to stir revenue payers against Government and tenants against landlords, that it was very easy to raise rural agitation on these lines and that the consequence could not fail to be serious. That in so far as there was economic distress, Local Governments were fully alive to the gravity of the situation and would deal with it as liberally as circumstances permitted and that any attempt by Congress as an organisation to intervene would merely make the situation more difficult. I mentioned to him the report I had seen that the Congress Committee or Council in the United Provinces had made a recommendation that 50 per cent of land revenue and rents should be remitted and had advised revenue payers and tenants to withhold payments pending decision by the local Government. Unfortunately I did not have the reference with me and so could not verify it. Mr. Gandhi agreed that if the facts were as stated it was wrong to advise tenants to withhold rents. I promised to look out the reference and to let him have it.

(e) I next mentioned definite disquieting reports from Gujarat saying that land revenue was not being paid, and I told him that I had seen a speech by Vallabhbhai Patel suggesting that Government would be quite content to wait a year or even two years for revenue where there was difficulty in paying it. I suggested to him that statements of this kind would naturally be taken advantage of by revenue payers who could easily pay and that while I had no doubt that Local Government would consider any genuine cases of distress, our information was that there should be no difficulty at all in paying up by far the greater part of the revenue at once. I said that the inevitable result of unwarranted delay on the part of revenue payers would be the recommencement of coercive processes and the creation of an unfavourable atmosphere. He expressed surprise that

land revenue was not coming in and said that so far as he was concerned there was no intention to discourage people who could pay and not to do so.

3. He then himself mentioned certain correspondence he had with the Collector of Kaira regarding forfeited lands and other matters. He regarded the correspondence as unsatisfactory, but did not say what it was about and dropped the subject. He mentioned however, a circular issued by Mamlatdar of Kaira to the effect that village servants who had resigned had not only to apply for reinstatement, but had to express regret for their conduct and also pay a penalty before reinstatement. He regarded this as contrary to the spirit of the settlement. I said that I could express no opinion on the matter in ignorance of the policy of the local Government. He said he would let me have a copy of the circular.

4. I then read to him a letter received to-day from the United Provinces Government mentioning a case of forcible picketing in Agra. He agreed that if the facts were correct, it was a clear case for suspension of all picketing. I promised to let him have a copy. I also mentioned cases which had been brought to my notice by non-officials of picketing in Amritsar and Cawnpore where the transport of goods from one place to another had been prevented ; but as I had no official confirmation of these facts, I could not press for effective action.

5. The general impression left was that Mr. Gandhi is anxious to implement the settlement and to obtain a genuine solution. He seemed to be confident about the Karachi Congress ; but he expected opposition from the left and said that the execution of Bhagat Singh might seriously complicate matters. He was very loyal to Pandit Jawaharlal, but, I gathered, did not regard it as altogether improbable that he would take his own line sooner or later. He recognised the difficulties that would be created by an undiluted resolution in favour of complete independence at the Karachi Congress and by a declaration that the Congress would go on fighting until they achieved this. It seemed to me that he himself had made up his mind to see that a course of this kind was not taken and that the actual resolutions of this nature would be qualified by speeches which would avoid banging the door in the way of peace.

(Sd.) H. W. EMERSON

19th March 1931

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (5)-A, p. 147]

R. I. No. S. D. 1124-A
6th February 1931

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S-282/31 –Political
Government of India
HOME DEPARTMENT

From

The Hon'ble Mr. H. W. Emerson, CLE., C.B.E.,
Secretary to the Government of India ;

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department (Political), Bombay.

New Delhi, the 4th February 1931

Sir,

I am directed to enclose a copy of a letter, dated the 1st of February, with its enclosure addressed by Mr. Gandhi to His Excellency the Viceroy and of the reply dated the 4th of February, which has been sent to the latter. In regard to the reference to incidents alleged to have taken place at Borsad on the 21st of January, the Government of India have seen the communique issued by the Government of Bombay ; but, in view of the gravity of the allegations made, I am to request that that the Government of India may be fully informed, as early as possible, of the facts as hitherto ascertained and of the nature of any enquiry that may have been made. I am also to request that, if the Governor in Council has no objection, such further enquiry may be made as may appear to the local Government to be desirable, having regard to the statements contained in Mr. Gandhi's letter and its enclosure, and that the results of the enquiry may be reported to the Government of India.

2. I am to ask that the correspondence with Mr. Gandhi may be treated as confidential, unless and until it is published. There is, however, no objection to use being made, for the purpose of any further enquiry, of the relevant portion of Mr. Gandhi's letter and of the enclosure thereto.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) H. W. EMERSON,
Secretary to the Government of India.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (14)-O, Part A, pp. 151-155]

4th February 1931

G. M.

His Excellency desires me to thank you for your letter of the 1st of February in which you bring to his notice four cases of alleged arbitrary and excessive action on the part of Government servants.

He wishes me to assure you that he condemns not less strongly than you any cruelty or excess by whomsoever practised, and he knows that this feeling is shared by every local Government. As regards the incidents you mention in your letter. His Excellency had not previously heard of the events which are stated to have occurred at Borsad on the 21st of January. You will no doubt by this time have seen the statement issued by the Bombay Government, which gives a different version of the occurrence, and His Excellency is therefore placing the information you have supplied to him before the Bombay Government, in order that they make such further enquiry as may seem necessary.

His Excellency had, previous to the receipt of your letter, requested a report from the Government of Madras regarding the fourth incident you mention.

The remaining two incidents are associated with the celebration of Independence Day on January 26. He has not yet received a detailed report of the circumstances in which firing took place at Beguserai, but he thinks you ought to see the attached copy of the telegraphic report sent by the local Government on January 27, indicating that the affair was similar to many others that have occurred during the past year, in which the police have had to fire in order to protect life against mob violence. The Government of India have received from the Bengal Government a full account of the events associated with the arrest of the Mayor of Calcutta. His Excellency understands that the case is *sub judice*, and he must therefore refrain from any comment on it, beyond saying that he is informed that the local Government did their utmost to dissuade Mr. Subhash Chandra Bose from deliberately persisting in a course that must bring him into conflict with the authorities.

His Excellency understands that celebrations were held on Independence Day at many places throughout India, and that they were generally in accordance with the instructions of the Working Committee of the All-India Congress. He has read the accounts of several such celebrations. They included, as you mention, the reaffirmation of independence, and they also included the passing of a resolution which in His Excellency's view must be regarded as a direct encouragement to the mutiny of troops. He does not

here wish to dwell on these and other features of the celebrations, which appear to him to have been of the nature of a deliberate challenge to constituted authority at a critical time. When much is made of alleged incidents of the 26th of January, it is right that the other side of the case should not be overlooked.

This indeed is true of the events of the past year viewed as a whole. You have invited His Excellency to appoint a Committee of Enquiry to investigate the general allegations of excesses made against officials since the inauguration of the civil disobedience movement. His Excellency regrets that he is unable to accept the suggestion. He would equally decline to entertain any similar proposal to initiate any general enquiry into the responsibility for excesses committed by adherents to the civil disobedience movement. For it will not have escaped your notice that during this period there have been frequent occasions on which the police have been gratuitously subjected to violent attack, and they and law-abiding citizens have been exposed to a process of systematic, and in many cases grave, personal persecution. So far as His Excellency is aware, such action has evoked no condemnation from the leaders of the Congress organisation ; His Excellency therefore sees no profit in the general exploration of charges and countercharges that would be made. Nor can he feel that it would assist the discharge of what he considers at the present time the most important task of affording opportunity to all, who are willing to do so, to join in the constructive work of bringing to fulfilment the purpose clearly stated by the Prime Minister.

His Excellency desires me to add that he has no objection to the publication of this correspondence.

(Sd.) G. CUNNINGHAM

M. K. Gandhi, Esq.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (14)-O, Part A, pp. 159-163]

Anand Bhavan
Allahabad
1st February 1931

Dear Friend,

You have made a public appeal to me for co-operation in connection with the further work of the recently held conference in London and ascribed to me a belief in the sincerity of British promise and declarations. I wish I could endorse yours ascription. I told you on the 23rd December 1929 that subject to honourable exceptions I had found to my great sorrow

that British declarations and promises were insincere. Had I not found them so the active voluntary co-operation that I had tendered to British officials in India and outside would never have been withdrawn.

But I assure you that I am simply waiting for a sign in order to enable me to respond to your appeal. I confess, however, that some of the signs are highly ominous. In Borsad, in the district of Kaira on the 21st January a cruel, uncalled for and unchivalrous lathi charge was made upon wholly innocent women and girls who were forming a procession which was marching to a women's meeting that was to be held in order to protest against the brutal treatment of a girl 17 years old by a police official. Neither the procession nor the meeting was prohibited. The injuries were severe in several cases. Some of those who were assaulted belong to the Satyagraha Ashram at Sabarmati. One of them, an old widow, a Member of the Managing Board of the Ashram, was drenched in blood. To give you some idea of the nature of the police barbarity I give a free translation of her letter to me. The facts stated in that letter are capable of easy proof. The Collector himself was in Borsad on this date. At the time of writing this, I cannot recall anything in modern history to parallel this official inhumanity against wholly defenceless and innocent women. I may complete the outline of this picture by stating that there were no men in this meeting or procession except a few volunteer guides.

On the 26th at Calcutta as you may be aware the meetings advertised to be held for the purpose of redeclaring Independence Day Resolution were put under the ban and the procession marching to the principal meeting and headed by the Mayor of Calcutta, Sjt. Subhash Chandra Bose, was dispersed by a cruel lathi charge.

In Begusarai (Bihar) on the same date a party of men returning from a similar meeting was fired upon by the police resulting in six killed and several wounded. The police are reported to have fired even into a school. You have probably read the official defence of the police proceeding. My informants deny the main part of the official defence, and if their version is correct, the firing was wholly uncalled for.

On the top of these three events comes the news that Sjt. Bhashyam, a member of the Madras Bar Council and Sjt. V. A. Sundaram, a well-known worker, were, whilst they were picketing foreign cloth shops, with the concurrence of the owners, assaulted and treated in a manner unworthy of a civilised State. They were taken, after the assault, to an out of the way place and out of the reach of medical or other assistance. Had it not been for the chance passing of a car, it is difficult to say what would have happened to these gentlemen.

I do not ask you to accept the versions given here, but I do ask you to feel with me that it is not possible for those like me who believe in them to tender co-operation with any confidence, much less enthusiasm. Whether however such co-operation, for which many other things are necessary, comes forth in the end or not, it is, I hope you will agree, highly necessary to have an unbiassed judgment over happenings like those I have narrated. Such an enquiry is necessary because I assume that the Government of India do not want to countenance methods such as I have described. The four cases I have cited are but recent examples. I invite you therefore to appoint an impartial and representative Committee of inquiry acceptable to the Congress to investigate the allegations of excesses against officials in different parts of India since the inauguration of the Civil Disobedience Campaign. If such a Committee is appointed, I am sure that the Congress will lead evidence before it to show that in very many cases the conduct of officials has been contrary to the expectations raised in the preambles to your ordinances in your repeated declarations.

Till I hear from you and know your wish in the matter I am not sending this letter to the press. I am in Allahabad till Tuesday. I expect to leave Allahabad Tuesday evening for Bombay where I expect to be till the 6th instant.

I remain,
Your faithful friend,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

H. E. the Viceroy, Delhi.

Enclosure.—Translation of a letter.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (14)-O, Part A, p. 165]

Enclosure

Free translation of Gangaben's Letter

"You know that there was to be a procession in honour of Lilavati as a protest against the outrageous assault on her by the police. It was not possible for me to keep out of the procession. In fact I took it upon myself to organise the procession by placing the Ashram girls at the head of the

small batches of women coming from various parts of the town. Whilst I was leading my batch, I am informed that Shakariben, Kalawati who were at the head of the Ras batch were being belaboured by the police with lathis. I immediately ran to the spot. I found that a girl was profusely bleeding. I went and cheered her up and asked the rest of the sisters to march forward reciting Raghupati Raghawa Rajaram (God's name). I was also asking the passers by to keep on one side of the road, so as not to obstruct the procession, when all of a sudden the police came down upon us with a shower of lathi blows. I came in for a big share of them, receiving several at the head, the arms, the back, the face, and the ears. Blood streamed out from a wound caused on my head, but I did not budge an inch and asked the other sisters to sit down. Seeing that I would not be deterred, the Foudar came and arrested me and handed me over to the police. I was taken, bleeding, to the police chowki where I found Shakariben, Kalawati, Padma, Lakshmi and Madhu who had all had their share of the blows. My head was still bleeding and I sat down allowing the sun's rays to fall on the bleeding part. I was perfectly peaceful. Sometime after the police came and asked one of us if we had been injured. ' Can't you see with your own eyes ?' I told them. To which he replied ' You would like to be taken to the hospital ?' ' No', said I, ' I suppose we can get well without medical aid.' At this moment another police official arrived on the scene and sternly said to the man who was gloating over our agonies. " Don't you see that she is still bleeding ? Take them quickly to the hospital. How could you allow them to remain here unattended so long ? " Thereupon we were taken to the hospital where we found Maitri, Lalita, Lakshmi and other girls who had all been hammered and already admitted as inpatients. My wound was dressed. It was, the doctor told me, three quarters of an inch to one inch. The others were treated, but were later turned out, evidently because they had chosen to arrest only Vasumati and me.

We are in the lock-up. My wound is being dressed daily and I am quite happy and peaceful. I have my prayers regularly, but have not yet been given my takli. It was on this occasion that I understood somewhat the meaning of Ahimsa. I was quite fearless when the blows were coming down upon me, and I assure you I had no hatred or anger in me. Even now I feel no resentment towards the police, and it is growing upon me that we shall achieve success to the extent we cultivate the spirit of Ahimsa. The other sisters also bore with exemplary bravery. In some cases the assaults were outrageous, many being kicked on their chests with the heels of the policemen's boots. Not one budged an inch, every one stood unflinching at her post. Where from came this sudden access of courage and strength, I wonder. God was with us I am sure. He gave us the strength.

I will not trouble you with more details. The girls will write themselves.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, pp. 81-89]

**IN THE COURT OF THE CHIEF PRESIDENCY MAGISTRATE,
BOMBAY**

CASE NO. 747/W OF 1930

Hari Dharama Rajah

Complainant;

versus

King Emperor

Accused.

CHARGE.—Under section 124-A, I. P. C.

Judgment.—The accused is charged under section 124-A, I. P. C., in respect of three speeches delivered by him at two meetings held at the Esplanade Maidan on 20th and 22nd of October 1930.

The police on coming to know of the meetings deputed Sub-Inspector of Police and a short-hand reporter to attend the meetings and take down the speeches delivered by the speakers at the said meetings.

Accordingly on the 20th, Sub-Inspector Wani and Mr. Sitaram Raje who was lately the Chief Reporter of the Bombay Legislative Council attend the meeting on the 20th, while Sub-Inspector Paranjpe and Mr. Raje attended the meeting on the 22nd.

Mr. Raje took down the speeches delivered by the accused in English in short-hand and they were subsequently transcribed by him in long hand while Sub-Inspector made a mental note of the speech and immediately made a report of the speech of the accused to Mr. Chaudhary, giving the purport of the speech.

Similarly Mr. Raje took down the speeches made by the accused on the 22nd in short-hand while Sub-Inspector Paranjpe made a report of it to the Inspector giving the purport of the speeches delivered by the accused.

The Public Prosecutor has put in the short-hand notes made by Mr. Raje and the transcriptions of the three speeches of the accused. Exhibit C is the transcription of the speech delivered on 20th, while Exhibit D and D1, are the transcriptions of the two speeches made by the accused on 22nd. The two Sub-Inspectors were examined and they gave the purport of the speeches made by the accused after refreshing their memory from the reports made by them on the day the speeches were delivered.

There was no serious attempt made to show that the speeches as taken down in short-hand notes by Mr. Raje were not correctly taken down. Mr. Raje is an expert in short-hand and his speed is 200 words a minute. He was seated on both the occasions just near the accused and the speeches

were delivered in English, a language in which Mr. Raje is proficient, I accept his evidence and hold that he correctly took down the speeches in shorthand and the transcriptions Ex. C, D and D-1 are correctly transcriptions thereof.

The evidence of the two Sub-Inspectors who only give the purport of the speeches also support Mr. Raje, or rather Mr. Raje's short-hand notes go to show that the purport of the speeches was correctly reported by them to the Inspector. Mr. Raje has taken down word for word the speeches as delivered by the accused.

Reading the speeches as a whole there cannot be any doubt that they are such as would excite hatred and contempt for the Government established by Law in British India, and that they were of a nature such as would cause or tend to excite disaffection and disloyalty towards the Government and the British people.

In Exhibit C he refers to the present situation in the country which he ascribes to the " Stupid and high handed action of the Government". He then refers to the recent happenings at Peshawar, Islampur and Panvel, and says that when " There was an honest desire at Peshawar to achieve complete national independence of India, the brute forces of British Imperialism, ' shot dead' the Marathas, Sikhs, and Muslims there. When the growing Revolutionary peasantry at Panvel rose up in revolt they were shot dead, and when the brave Mahrattas rose up in revolt at Islampur in Satara to put an end to this Government, they too were shot dead. At Calcutta the police were guilty of high handed hooliganism." He then goes on to say that whereas the Government had declared the National Congress as an illegal Institution, in his opinion the Government " which conducts lathi charges on innocent spectators and commits murders and confiscates property ought to be declared illegal". He takes the youth, who have been suppressed and exploited by British Imperialism to rise up in revolt and put an end to this Government. He calls upon them to consider the present condition under the British Rule. Every day ten thousand people are dying for want of food and shelter, and he attributes even plague and influenza to the British Rule.

He touches on the creed on non-violence, but as Mr. Walker said in the beginning of the case he only offers lips service to non-violence. All his speeches are incentives to rise up in revolt and put an end to the present Government. He asks his hearers to look at Egypt and China. They both had to fight for their independence and he exhorts them to do the same when thousands and hundreds of people are dying for the cause of the nation, the youth of the country should be prepared to do its mite and rise when the British regime will collapse like a house of cards. He then refers to the floating of the last loan and says that its purport was to feed those who are in India in their representative character to kill and beat them.

Exhibits D and D-1 are in a similar strain. In Exhibit D he asks the Nation to cast up its accounts and see what is on the credit side. On the credit side of the nation thousands of people have become the victims of the British treachery, thousands have been murdered and thousands have been brutally beaten by the Lathis of the Police and have more than 50 thousands been put into Prison and they are rotting in Prison without proper ventilation and without proper food.

He then refers to the Viceroy in language savouring of contempt and describes him as a man sucking the blood of a nation by drawing at this juncture 20,000 rupees as a Fat Salary. Under the present regime the Government will go on forbidding meetings, arresting persons and go on firing and shooting indiscriminately. "What then was to be done" he asks his hearers. Their duty was to stand as one man to put an end to this British Rule. He calls the Government dacoits and conspirators who are every day ordering the shooting down of the people and confiscating their property. This was the time when all their energies must be martialled to face the militant fight to put an end to British Imperialism.

Similarly in D-1, he says that this was the time for action and to show their mettle and to prove that they were a nation who had decided to put an end to British Rule. The Government had been promulgating laws without their consent and he says you know they have been beating, killing you and shooting you down and they are without your consent confiscating property. . . . That mean Government, that mean Institution, that mean treacherous regime must be made illegal. He then exhorts the youth to join the People's Battalion and not to rest unless and until the British regime collapses and British Imperialism is put an end to.

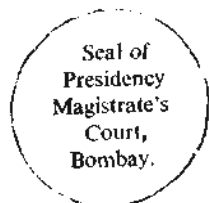
I have given the above extracts from the speeches to show the kind of speeches he delivered on the two occasions. In my opinion they are nothing but an incentive to the youth to rise in revolt and put an end to the present Government. He describes the Government as dacoits and murderers and full of treachery, shooting and killing people indiscriminately. The speeches in my opinion clearly fall within the provision of section 124-A of the I. P. C.

I therefore hold him guilty and convict him. As to the sentence I am of opinion a deterrent sentence is necessary. The speeches are nothing but a vilification of the Government, misrepresenting its actions and motives. They are nothing but vulgar abuse of Government which seems to be the fashion now-a-days with a certain class of Demagogue, who try to seek cheap notoriety with a certain class of people by resorting to misrepresentations and vulgar abuses.

I sentence him however only on two charges. For though I have framed three charges against him in respect of the three speeches, viz. Exhibits C, D and

D-1 in my opinion the speeches D and D-I were delivered at the same meeting and I do not think he can be sentenced on those two charges separately.

I therefore sentence him as regards the first and second charge to one year's R. I. and to pay a fine of Rs. 400, in default six months' R. I. on each of the two charges, the sentences to run consecutively.



True Copy

(Sd.) H. P. DASTUR
1st November 1930

(Sd.) H. P. DASTUR,
Chief Presidency Magistrate, Bombay.

Applied for : 5th November 1930.
Ready on : 14th November 1930.
Despd. on : 15th November 1930.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, pp. 81-89]

The following point was raised in the conversation between His Excellency and Mr. Gandhi on the 17th April 1931 :

Cases under section 124-A, especially in Bombay, which Mr. Gandhi maintained were not contemplated in the list of offences amounting to violence or incitement to violence.

2. Mr. Gandhi is of opinion that the writing of articles and the making of speeches were not contemplated when it was decided to exclude from the amnesty violence and incitement to violence ; and that even if they could technically be so included, it is against the spirit of it to do so.

3. The point was discussed between him and Mr. Emerson on the 19th March 1931.

4. I do not think we need seriously consider whether speeches and writings can contain incitement to violence. It is obvious that they can, and what is more important that incitement conveyed in this way is often more serious and far reaching than other forms of incitement. Of course by speeches Mr. Gandhi referred to the so-called political speeches which might contain passages amounting to advocacy to violence. He did not pretend that a speech or harangue inciting an audience to do a specific act of violence would not be a case for refusal to give the benefit of the amnesty.

5. It seems therefore to resolve itself into whether we should reconsider the individual cases of the persons concerned. They are put up herewith.

6. Reference is invited to H. M.'s minute of 21st April on page 122. I think we must maintain the same attitude. These cases must stand together. Either all the prisoners should be released because the imprisonment they have suffered is sufficient to meet the needs of the law, or none. To pass orders on single cases would be inconsistent and would be interpreted as an admission of error in applying the terms of the amnesty.

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS
28th April

H. M.

I agree with para. 6 of Secretary's note. At the same time I would be willing to release any of them who makes a personal application, expressing regret for what he has done and promising not to repeat his offence in future. This is a gesture that I think Government can allow to make.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
3rd June

H. E. (P. S. G.)

I am in full agreement with the view, accepted by H. M., that persons convicted under section 124-A for speeches containing incitements to violence are rightly excluded from the benefit of the amnesty under the terms of the agreement.

2. This is the only point with which Mr. Gandhi is concerned, and it should not, in my opinion, be allowed to be confused with any action which Government may be willing to take as an act of clemency. If any person, convicted under section 124-A, makes adequate apologies and gives the undertaking referred to by H. M., Government are always free to show leniency, as in many cases in the past. But such leniency cannot be claimed as a thing to which the prisoner is entitled under the agreement, and nothing should be said to give Mr. Gandhi the impression that such a claim is recognised. Indeed, he would probably be the first to point out that there is no room under the agreement for any kind of conditional release.

(Sd.) J. E. B. HOTSON
6th May 1931

Submitted for information.

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS
6th May

H. M.

I presume that H. E. intends that Mr. Gandhi should be informed as above.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
7th May

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, pp. 197-198]

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
MAHABALESHWAR
13th May 1931

Dear Mr. Gandhi,

At your interview with His Excellency Sir Frederick Sykes on the 17th April, His Excellency promised that certain cases which you mentioned, pertaining to the Home Department would be reconsidered by the Government. I am now to inform you of the results of that review.

2. I am to deal firstly with your suggestions for the release of certain prisoners.

* * * * *

(ii) The Government have reconsidered the cases of persons convicted under section 124-A of the I. P. C. You expressed the opinion that the writings of articles and the making of speeches were not contemplated when it was decided that the settlement should not apply to cases of violence and incitement to violence. The Government are unable to accept this view, for it is clear that such writings and speeches can, and often did, contain incitement to violence which is real and not technical, and that such incitement is often more dangerous and far reaching than other forms of incitement to violence. The Government find that the cases of the individuals detained in jail satisfied this test, and they are therefore in no doubt that those persons were rightly excluded from the benefits of the amnesty. I am to add that Government are always ready to show leniency, as in many cases in the past, to any person convicted under section 124-A of the I. P. C., who makes adequate apologies and gives an undertaking not to repeat the offence, but this is a point unconnected with the settlement, which makes no provision for conditional release.

* * * * *

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL

M. K. Gandhi, Esquire.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, p. 121]

[Original in File No. 750 (57)-Part II]

Extract from a note by Mr. Emerson of an interview between himself and Mr. Gandhi on the 13th/16th May 1931, received from the Government of India with their D. O. Letter No. S-1132/31-Poll, dated the 20th May 1931.

4. Mr. Gandhi then mentioned the matter of releases of prisoners, about which we had a general and somewhat infructuous talk. He still seems to think that there are cases which come within the amnesty in which releases have not been granted, and he promised to let me have lists of these. I told him that we had sent the previous lists to local Governments, and the replies we had so far received definitely indicated that local Governments had very scrupulously honoured the Settlement in this respect ... I also reminded him that local Governments generally have interpreted the Settlement very liberally in cases of technical violence and that while they have been more strict in cases of incitement to violence, there are good reasons for this. I took the opportunity of reminding this that within the last three weeks there have been three incidents connected with the terrorist movement in the Punjab alone, namely, the Shalimar affair, the Sialkot incident and the very recent bomb explosion in the Jullunder District. He had not heard of the last and was shocked to hear that the two persons concerned were connected with the Congress. He agreed that local Governments were justified in taking a serious view of incitement to violence and he did not attempt to raise the question of cases under section 124-A, I. P. C. and section 108, Cr. P. C., which at one time threatened to be a matter of controversy. Two cases appeared to be worrying him. One was the case of an editor * (R. S. Rajwade) convicted in Sholapur, in regard to which he urges that there was neither violence nor incitement to violence and the second case (Ratanji Dayaram) was one from the Surat District, where a youth had been convicted for arson. His crop had been attached, and he then set fire to it. Mr. Gandhi then attempted to argue that violence within the terms of the Settlement had reference only to violence to person and that, therefore, this particular incident was not violence. This of course could not be accepted. I understand that he was in correspondence in regard to both cases with the local Government.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, pp. 81-89]

Extract from a minute by H. M., H. D.

3. Several paragraphs of the note concern H. D. more or less directly. Paragraph 4 deals with the vexed question of the release of prisoners. In some cases, there has been a difference of opinion between H. E. and myself but final orders have, I think, now been given on every case and Mr. Gandhi has been informed of the reasons why Government have decided not to release those prisoners whose cases he represented to H. E. Sir Frederick Sykes. It is satisfactory to find that Mr. Gandhi does not press for reconsideration of cases under section 124-A, I. P. C. and section 108, Cr. P. C. As regards the other cases, no further action is now necessary. Possibly

* *Note.*—He has since been released.

some of them may have to be reconsidered if pressure is brought to bear, but for the present nothing requires to be done.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
24th May

Extract from a minute by H. E.

One or two points require a little further notice. At the end of the first sub-paragraph of paragraph 4, Mr. Emerson rejects Mr. Gandhi's argument that ' violence ' in the settlement meant only ' violence to the person '. This supports the interpretation on which several of our decisions on disputed cases have been based.

(Sd.) E. B. HOTSON
27th May 1931

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, p. 125]

*Extract from a letter dated the 6th June 1931, from Mr. M. K. Gandhi
to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the
Governor of Bombay.*

Reverting to your letter of the 13th May.

I have now received the papers about Sjt. H. D. Rajah and on a perusal of the papers I can find no incitement to violence. The speeches themselves are not before me, because, I am told, that they are not to be found in the record of the case but the evidence of the Crown witnesses and the Judge's summing up bring out the most relevant parts of the speeches, which though highly discourteous and equally seditious, contain no incitement to violence. On the contrary, the judge himself refers to the profession of non-violence by the accused but dismisses it as lip service. In the absence of any direct incitement to violence I cannot see how it is possible for a judge to infer mere lip service when there is a direct assertion of non-violence. But I have not relied upon my own opinion, I put the thing before three legal friends, one of whom has kindly reduced his opinion to writing, copy of which I enclose herewith. In the circumstances I request His Excellency to reconsider his decision and beg to point out that under clause 13 of the Settlement there is no option but to discharge the civil disobedience prisoners who might not be guilty of offences involving violence other than technical violence or incitement to such violence. I venture to suggest that where there is no incitement on the face of the evidence it is not open to the Government to deduce such incitement.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, pp. 127-129]

H. D. Rajah.

1st case—Section 17, clauses 1 and 2 of Criminal Law Amendment Act

No incitement to violence

Judgment states :

" Most of the members of the People's Battalion are persons who were members of the Bombay Youth League ; as the Bombay Youth League was declared to be an unlawful association the accused and others formed the People's Battalion. The accused is, therefore, a member of an unlawful association." " The People's Battalion was only a cloak to hide the activities of the Bombay Youth League."

The above, thus, shows that the accused by being a member of the Battalion, was endeavouring to carry on the ordinary civil disobedience activity which the Bombay Youth League was carrying on before being declared unlawful.

The Battalion issued some leaflets but all that the judgment states is :

They were " such as would rouse the people against the Government and which exhorted them not to invest in Government securities, Post Office Savings Banks and other Government Banks and not to serve Government ".

There is in this no incitement to violence.

2nd Case—Section 124-A

The judgment is based on speeches, copies of which are not with the record. For a final and conclusive opinion in the case, it would be better to have these speeches gone through.

Judgment states :

" All his speeches are incentives to rise up in revolt and put an end to the present Government."

The accused may have used the above words but the words can easily refer to the non-violence revolt.

Reasons for above view

(1) Prosecution witness Ahmad Khan states that Mr. Rajah " has now started People's Battalion to carry on the Congress fight".

(2) He has asked people to fight to the finish to carry on the programme (i.e. Congress programme). He has referred to the sufferings of Bardoli peasants, to the effect of boycott, to the high rates for Government loans, to need for unity with a view to put an end to British Government, and asked people to go on defying ordinances.

(3) Prosecution witness Paranjpe says :

" He invited the people to join the Gandhi Movement."

(4) It seems that he made a definite reference in support of non-violence but the Government prosecutor said that it was only lip-service to non violence.

I see no incitement to violence in the portions of the speeches which have appeared in the record. I think the meaning of words, removed from their context, is being stretched. It may however, be safer to go through the speeches, if one is to be on sure ground.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, pp. 131-135]

Extract from P. S. G.'s note

Letter, dated 6th June, from Mr. Gandhi is forwarded herewith to H. D.

As regards paragraph 1, His Excellency thinks that there can be no doubt that the actual speeches of Mr. Rajah were on the record of the case. Will H. D. please verify this and put up the file containing the speeches, drawing attention to the passages which particularly amounted to incitement to violence ?

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL

9th June 1931

Please put up immediately the papers with our copy of P. S. G.'s reply to Mr. Gandhi. If any of the papers are in Bombay, please telephone for them. I suspect some of them are with the D. of I. If so, he must be asked to send them.

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS

Home Department (Special)

Copies of the P. S. G.'s two (one had no reference to the case of Rajah) letters of the 13th May 1931, referred to in the letter from Mr. Gandhi, will be found at pages 169-173 of the file put up.

2. *Case of H. D. Rajah.*—Rajah was sentenced to the following terms of imprisonment :

On 1st November 1930 to—

(a) one year's R. I. and fine of Rs. 400 or six months' R. I. in default in respect of a speech delivered by him at a public meeting on the Esplanade Maidan on 20th October 1930 (Attendance at the meeting not known).

(b) one year's R. I. and fine of Rs. 400 or six months' R. I. in default Maidan on 22nd October 1930 (Attendance not known, but reported to be a 'very large gathering').

The sentences in both the above cases to run consecutively.

On 7 th November 1930 to—

(c) six months' R. I. under section 17 (1) and six months' R. I. under section 17 (2) of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, the sentences to run concurrently.

As regards the conviction under (c), the opinion records by one of Mr. Gandhi's legal friends refers to the judgment in this case and adds that there was no incitement to violence. Copy of the judgment in this case is not available on our records and was not taken into consideration when the release of Mr. Rajah under the terms of the settlement was considered. It may be noted that no orders remitting the unexpired portion of the sentences in this case was passed.

3. The three speeches in respect of which H. D. Rajah was prosecuted and convicted under section 124-A, I. P. C. will be found at pp. 5-11, 35-41, and 57-61 *ante*. The objectionable portions of the speeches which tend to incite to violence have been marked off in blue chalk. The judgment of the Chief Presidency Magistrate will be found at pp. 83-91 *ante*. The following extracts from the judgment, which are only casually referred to by Mr. Gandhi and in the opinion of his legal friend, are important :

" He (Mr. H. D. Rajah) touches on the creed non-violence, but as Mr. Walkar said in the beginning of the case he only offers lip-service to non-violence. All his speeches are incentives to rise up in revolt and put an end to the present Government. He asks his hearers to look at Egypt and China. They both had to fight for their independence and he exhorts them to do the same when thousands and hundreds of people are dying for the cause of the nation, the youth of the country should be prepared to do its mite and rise when the British regime will collapse like a house of cards . . . Similarly in Exhibit D-1 he says that this is the time for action and to show their mettle and to prove that they were a nation who had decided to put an end to British Rule ... He then exhorts the youth to join the People's Battalion and not to rest unless and until the British regime collapses and British Imperialism is put an end to."

4. Attention is also requested to the notes and minutes at pages 99-101 *ante*.

* * * * * *

I have already given my opinion on the case of H. R. Rajah on pp. 99-100 ante.

2. Please see office note of 13th June. H. D. Rajah actually delivered five speeches as he spoke twice on two of the days, but (according to law) was accused in regard to three of them only. Home Department (Special) has brought to my notice that my note on the last occasion in which I said I could find only one passage (i.e. that relating to Bhagat Singh and others) which could be held as an incitement to violence referred to one of the speeches in regard to which he was not accused. To that extent my note was irrelevant. H. M. however decided that the speeches in general were an incitement to violence, so that this inaccuracy which I regret does not much matter.

3. I have again read all the speeches carefully and can find no passage which I think containing more than an indirect incitement to violence. From Mr. Gandhi downwards Congress speakers have referred to Bhagat Singh and others with admiration. The loose talk about "being prepared to die" and "rising against Government" was the slap-trap of nine-tenths of the Congress speakers. People going to loot salt were told to "bare their breasts to receive bullets". But as long as the speakers referred to the non-violence campaign such talk was not considered to advocate violence. There are references in one speech for which Rajah was accused to the example of Egypt and China. Because in certain parts of the history of political agitation in these countries violence was used, I do not think it could be held that the references to them were incitement to violence.

4. All such speeches no doubt excite their audiences, and might thereby at any time provoke them to violence. There is also little doubt that Rajah himself favoured violence and the people whom he particularly trained and excited, viz., the People's Battalion, were the kind likely to commit acts of violence, although they did not do so. It is a question how far the settlement contemplates this.

5. H. D. Rajah's writings in the *Young Liberator* no doubt contain many incitements to violence, but he was not brought to justice on that issue.

6. Please see the papers in which the Director of Information was asked to communicate to Mr. Wilson of the *Indian Daily Mail* the reasons for which prisoners were not released. Evidently Mr. Wilson had no difficulty except

as regards one Pandya who is detained in Nasik Jail. We have here perhaps an independent opinion which favours the decision of Government.

* * * * *

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS
18th June 1931

I am compelled to say that I don't think the case for not releasing Rajah at all strong. I should compromise by insisting that he does not come under the pact and by remitting the rest of his sentence as an act of clemency.

* * * * *

(Sd) G. A. THOMAS
18th June

A draft of the reply which it is proposed to issue to Mr. Gandhi is appended for the concurrence of H. D.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
1st July 1931
(Approved by Secretary and H. M.)

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, p. 137]

Extract from a letter, dated the 4th July 1931, from the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Bombay to Mr. M. K. Gandhi.

I am directed to reply to your letter of the 6th June in which you have further questioned some of the decisions of Government conveyed to you in my letter of the 13th May.

2. *Case of Mr. H. D. Rajah.*—Mr. Rajah was prosecuted in two cases under section 124-A, Indian Penal Code, in respect of three speeches—one delivered on the 20th October 1930, and two on the 22nd October 1930. He was convicted in both the cases. All the three speeches were put in as evidence and you will see that they are actually referred to by their exhibit numbers in the judgment of the Chief Presidency Magistrate. The statement made to you that they are not to be found on the record of the case must therefore be incorrect. However, I am to enclose copies of the 3 speeches for your perusal. On a consideration of the speeches as a whole the Chief Presidency Magistrate has taken the view that, whatever may have been said about non-violence, their general effect and intention was to incite the hearers to acts of violence, and Government see no reason to disagree with this view, which places, Mr. Rajah outside the scope of the amnesty.

As regards the convictions of Mr. Rajah under section 17 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, I am to explain that these were not taken into account by Government in deciding not to release him.

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, pp. 143-144*]

Extract from a Memorandum given to Mr. Emerson by Mr. Gandhi

A—Instances of breaches of Truce

3. *Clause 13 (i) regarding unrelease prisoners.*—Leaders in different provinces have been asked to approach local Governments in respect of several prisoners not yet released.

But two cases—those of H. D. Rajah and Ratanji Dayaram—were specifically referred to the Bombay Government. The Bombay Government in reply sent copies of speeches made by Rajah which in no way can be said to incite to violence. Ratanji Dayaram's burning of crop held in partnership is described as violence.

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

It is presumably not intended to collect the facts in regard to all the prisoners in this Presidency who have been held to be excluded from the amnesty under clause 13 (i) of the Settlement and who have therefore not been released, but to confine the issue to the two specific cases mentioned by Mr. Gandhi.

2. *H. D. Rajah.*—Please read—

(i) Secretary's note of 16th March 1931 and H. M. Sir Ernest Hotson's minute of 17th March 1931 ;

(ii) Secretary's note of 2nd May 1931, H. M.'s and H. E.'s minutes of 3rd May and 6th May ;

(iii) Para. 2(ii) of P. S. G.'s letter, dated the 13th May 1931 to Mr. Gandhi ;

(iv) Para. 1 of Mr. Gandhi's letter, dated 6th June 1931 to P. S. G. ;

(v) (a) Paras. 2-4 of note of 12th June 1931 ;

(b) Paras. 1-6 of Secretary's note of 18th June ;

(c) Para. 3 of H. M.'s minute of 18th June ; and

(d) Para. 2 of P. S. G.'s letter of 4th July to Mr. Gandhi.

3. *Ratanji Dayaram.*—Attention is invited to—

(i) Para. 4 of H. D. office note of 18th March 1931, Deputy Secretary's note of 23rd March and H. M. (Sir Ernest Hotson's) minute of 23rd March ;

(ii) The notes and minutes, dated 26th April, 7th May 1931 by Secretary, H. M. and H. E. ;

(iii) Para. 2 (iii) of P. S. G.'s letter of 13th May 1931 to Mr. Gandhi;

(iv) Para. 2 of Mr. Gandhi's letter of 6th June to P. S. G. ;

(v) (a) Para. 7 of Secretary's note of 18th June 1931 ;

(b) Para. 2 of H. M.'s minute of 18th June ; and

(c) Para. 3 of P. S. G.'s letter of 4th July 1931 to Mr. Gandhi.

4. The facts of the above two cases have been fully set-forth in the correspondence exchanged between P. S. G. and Mr. Gandhi. Relevant extracts from that correspondence may be communicated to the Government of India with such remarks as Government may consider necessary to add.

Secretary—

I think we need not do more than to send copies of the correspondence between Mr. Gandhi and P. S. G. In Rajah's case copies of the judgments speeches should be sent.

H. M.,

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS

27th July

I agree.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS

H. E. (P. S. G.)

28th July

(Sd.) J. E. B. HOTSON

29th July

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, p. 147]

Extract from a minute by His Excellency the Governor of Bombay

I had a long conversation with Mr. Gandhi this morning, beginning at 9-30 a.m. and going on without a break till almost 2-00 p.m.

* * * * *

5. The only matters outside the districts of Surat, Kaira and Broach to which he referred are. . . (3) some of the sentences, e.g. on Rajah, which have not yet been remitted. . . As to (3), I told him that Rajah's case was being considered by the Government of India. The others he did not seriously press.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, p. 149]

Government of India.

D. O. No. D. 5021/31-Poll

HOME DEPARTMENT

Simla, the 28th July 1931

My dear Collins,

During my recent discussion with Gandhi he specially mentioned the case of Rajah and said he would let me have a copy of the speeches for which he was convicted. I now enclose a copy of his letter of July 22nd, with which he included a copy of three speeches. I am to say that the Government of

India would be grateful for an early report in regard to the grounds on which the Government of Bombay have held that this case does not come within the terms of the Amnesty and, if these are based on his speeches, the portions thereof which have been held to contain incitement of violence.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) H. W. EMERSON

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS

31st July

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS, Esquire, C I.E., O.B.E., I.C.S.,
Home Secretary to Bombay Government, Poona.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, p. 151]

Simla, July 22, 1931

Dear Mr. Emerson,

As promised I enclose herewith the speeches of Mr. H. D. Rajah for which he was convicted. Whilst they may be called hysterical, I can read no violence or incitement there/to in the speeches. The copies are authentic because they have been supplied to me by the Government of Bombay. Will you kindly return the copies as I have not kept a duplicate ?

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

H. W. EMERSON, Esquire,
Simla.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, pp. 153-173]

Mr. H. D. Rajah addressing the audience in English said :

Comrades,

I request you all to sit down and to hear me peacefully and non-violently and with complete agreement.

Comrades, we are meeting today for the second time to consider a very grave and a very serious situation that has been created by the stupid, by the highhanded action of the Government of India. Comrades, you all know that today at this juncture we are in the thick of the fight. Three months are over and 50,000 blooming and self-sacrificing brethren have been sent to jail and thousands here on this Azad Maidan have received the brutal lathi blows of our comrade sepoys (hear, hear).

Comrades, at Peshawar when there was an honest desire to achieve complete national independence of India, the mighty brute forces of British Imperialism displayed themselves and our worthy comrades, the Sikhs, Muslims and Marathas were shot dead. When the growing revolutionary peasantry at Panvel rose up in revolt against this mighty Empire they were shot dead. Comrades at Islampur in Satara when the brave Marathas in whose veins the blood and spirit of bravery of their ancestors is still running—rose up in revolt to put an end to this Government. They were shot dead. Comrades at Calcutta the high-handed hooliganism of the police can never be disputed. Today your parent institution, the Indian National Congress, and all other allied bodies and the Youth League of Bombay have been declared illegal ? Who must be declared illegal ? The Institution which conducts lathi charges on innocent spectators and commits murders and confiscates property, that institution must be declared illegal, and what is that institution today ? It is that British Government, British rule in India today that is responsible for all this slaughter.

Comrades these are not the days of talk ; these are the days of actual action when you the growing generation of India, you who have been suppressed, who have been exploited by British Imperialism, must rise up in revolt to put an end to this Government.

Now then what are we to do ? What we want to do ? Look at the glorious civil disobedience campaign and the splendid success achieved by Mahatma Gandhi by his going in jail, and so many of our brethren who have followed him. Now it is up to you comrades, those who are still outside jails, to fulfil his mission, to fulfil the ambition of the nation, to fulfil the destiny of India for which you have been existing and for which you have been living. Think of the present condition of your country under the British rule. Every day 10,000 people are dying for want of food and shelter, plague and influenza are committing havoc here and there. Then what does it matter if you young men who are prepared to sacrifice yourself at the altar of the motherland die for the cause of the country. He who is born must die, that is the maxim nobody can deny. We may live for a century or for fifty years, may die and may be reborn. What does it matter then if you die in your attempt to put the present foreign rule to an end, to put an end to their exploitation. If you die in the present struggle for freedom your names will be written in golden letters in the Indian history.

Comrades, today there is no other programme except non-violence. We cannot be violent because you will at once be crushed by British Imperialism. That is the reason why I ask you, comrades, who stand for putting an end to this British Imperialism, to remain non-violent and to carry on this struggle to the finish.

Comrades, I have got others to follow me, but when I conclude I will speak more of the British tyranny and more of the British exploitation and more of the falsehoods that they are preaching in England. It is a pleasure to find that wives of some of our Indians who represent nobody in the Round Table Conference, are seen picketing the foreign cloth shops here. It is a pity that they still think that they can get anything in the Round Table Conference when the present tyrannical action of British Imperialism is responsible for exploitation, starvation and murder here (cries of shame, shame). British History teaches you that you can never get anything from them by asking. You must snatch your independence from them. Look at Egypt, look at China. They had to fight for their independence. The cause of India today is the cause of the masses, it is the cause of the man who sleeps on the road, it is the cause of the man who dies for want of food and shelter. It is the glorious cause to live as a man, that we ought to be in our homes. We must therefore be ready to fight and put an end to British Rule, and that is all we are fighting for. I have referred to one side of the picture. Now look at the other side of the picture. Look at the northern side of the Presidency, look at the Gujarat peasantry. What they have been doing. They are telling Government, it does not matter, you may confiscate my property you may not give me food and shelter, but being a true peasant and son of the land and being a true follower of Mahatma Gandhi I will pay no tax.

Comrades, when thousands and hundreds of people are dying for the cause of the nation, you young men who are youth leaguers, every one of you is sensible of what is happening all round India, you must rise and be prepared to do your mite and bit and if you do that, the British regime will collapse like a house of cards.

Friends, what is the condition today. The British Government had to float a loan at the rate of 6 per cent. That is the state of their finances. Now for what purpose is this loan floated. It is floated to feed those who are in India in their representative character and who are simply here to beat you and to kill you. But bear you young men in mind that the day is fast approaching when you all will stand shoulder to shoulder and see that this British regime is put an end to. There is no use talking further, I am feeling exhausted and request you once again to contribute your mite and fight in the present struggle that is going on in spite of the 9th Ordinance of Lord Irwin (cries of Inquilab and loud applause).

Mr. H. D. Rajah in opening the proceedings addressed the audience in English. He said :

Comrades, today is the new year's day. Merchants of the city will be taking stock of their business of last year and they will be opening new accounts for the current year. The Indian nation, the Hindustan that has

revolted, that is up to put an end to British Rule, is also taking stock of its own account. What is the balance sheet ? What is the sum and substance of the fight ? What is the debit and credit side ? The merchants can say and so the national workers can say. On the credit side of the nation thousands of people have become the victims of the British treachery, thousands have been murdered by this British Government, thousands of people have been brutally beaten by the lathis of the police and more than 50,000 have been put into prison and they are rotting in jails without proper ventilation and without proper food. That is on the credit of the nation. That is the transaction, that is the business we have done with this British Government.

Comrades, now the time has come when as in business you have taken stock of your account, you have to take stock of your political agitation and see whether we go on to the successful termination or whether we put an end to our fight. Can we do the latter ? If we could do the latter what is the position ? These beautiful ladies of India, who have come out openly, who have given a deathblow to this Government by disobeying their orders and parading in the streets beginning from Chowpaty and ending in the Azad Maidan, have by their action given a reply, a fit reply that we should not put an end to our fight. That is the feeling every young man, every woman and every child of the country today has at heart. Now we find the time has come perhaps finally to give a death blow to British Imperialism. The struggle has begun. The 9th Ordinance of the Viceroy, a mighty man, a Viceroy who is a paid missionary of British Capitalism, a man who has been sucking the blood of the nation by drawing at this juncture 20,000 rupees as fat salary—that man issues from Simla an Ordinance called the 9th Ordinance has declared the ladies activities as illegal. A nation which has risen up in revolt can never be subsided by nine, 900 or 9,000 ordinances.

Lord Irwin, I request you if you have the spirit of a gentleman, to come down to Bombay and see what is happening here and then you will see that the information that is sent to you is false and you will be satisfied that the present struggle has at present reached a stage when there is no room for a compromise. Can we compromise with this British Imperialism ? We cannot have any idea as to what this British Imperialism will do. Under this regime they will not only forbid meetings but will arrest you, conduct lathi charges and go on firing and shooting indiscriminately. Under this British regime we cannot say what will happen and what will not happen. This is the situation in which we are today.

Comrades, at this juncture what should we do. What should be our ideal ? What ought to be our duty when the whole country as a nation, all through young beautiful patriotic sons and daughters throughout the whole country have stood up as one man to put an end to the British Rule ? Comrades,

it is no doubt a misfortune to find some of us who though they really represent none of us have gone to attend the Square Table Conference as I will call it, and not the Round Table Conference. What do these men— Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Mr. Jaykar and Mr. Jinnah expect to get from the British Government which is doing its work in India as dacoits and conspirators and who is every day ordering shooting down of people and confiscating our property. Can you square up with such a regime ?

Therefore, Comrades, let me tell you and the people ail over India that your emancipation today will be the emancipation of all the colonial countries all over the world. Because our slavery, our bondage is responsible for even putting down the national aspirations of many other colonial countries.

Comrades, Mahatma Gandhi by his historical march has led the nation today to this stage. The awakening, the mass awakening which you find today is due to this great man who has launched the civil disobedience campaign, and it is up to you his followers to continue his fight, to continue the struggle till our ideal is realised and till India is free from British Imperialism. Will you contribute your mite and continue the struggle until British Imperialism is put an end to ?

Comrades, this is the time when we cannot discuss the pros and cons of our struggle. We have launched the campaign and we have to face the consequences and success will be yours, and posterity will judge you rightly. But if you give up the struggle in the thick of the fight and do not face the repression that is relentlessly carried on by Government at this juncture, your posterity will never approve of your action. Look around you and see the revolutionary spirit that has been inculcated among the citizens of India, among your sons and daughters, and if you fail at this juncture posterity will ridicule you. Take care that you do not abandon the cause that has been taken up. This is the time when all our energies must be martialled to face the militant fight to put an end to the British Imperialism. This is the time when every patriotic citizen has to do his duty. Look at Bardoli and see what is happening there today. Thousands of peasants with their families have abandoned their land and homes and everything that they had and have come out openly and told the satanic representatives of British regime, the police, " Thrash us, confiscate our property, but we will not pay you a single farthing." That is the wonderful spirit of the peasantry of Bardoli. The same is happening in various other parts of the country. The peasantry have put aside 50 lakhs worth of corn and so many lakhs worth of their lands and buildings. What is the sacrifice ? What is the spirit that pervades all these brave sons of the land. And similar spirit of revolt you see is spreading all over the country.

Comrades, therefore continue the struggle to the end and put an end to the British Imperialism (loud cries of the usual slogans).

Comrades, now Mr. Nagojirao Pantalu, a disciple of Mahatma Gandhi, who has come to Bombay after spending six months in Jail will address you.

Mr. H. D. Rajah—Comrades, you have heard wonderful eloquent speeches of many distinguished leaders here and every one has been telling us that this is the time to show your mettle to prove that you are a nation who have decided to put an end to British rule. There is no surrendering, there is no getting over the issue and there is no retreat whatsoever. The Viceroy's Ordinance is intended to take your property, but the sole spirit, the desire, the earnest will to achieve freedom, the throbbing mentality, can it be made illegal ? Nay, your desire, your own allegiance to the Congress the parent institution of India, your earnest desire through that Congress and all other bodies to put an end to the British Government, can it be made illegal ? Nay, nine ordinances, or 90 ordinances or 900 ordinances of the Government put together cannot make your allegiance to the Congress illegal. Then if there is any institution in India to-day that is to be made illegal, it is Lord Irwin's Government. You know they have been promulgating laws without your consent. You know that they have been beating, killing you and shooting you down and they are without your consent confiscating your property. Who is doing an illegal act ? Over 2 crores and 8 lakhs of people who have passed through these streets to demonstrate, to show to the world that we have no desire for the British Government, have they touched a single European in Bombay ? Have they thrown a single stone at anybody. We who have declared that we are non-violent people, we who have demonstrated our will through that inspiring message of non-violence. We must be beaten and shot because we stand for our independence, because we strive for our country's emancipation. That mean Government, that mean institution, that mean treacherous regime must be made illegal. How will you do it ? Every meeting will be prohibited to-day. The Suburban Youth League meeting is not made illegal because it was sleeping so far while I was in Jail. It has come out to the light. It is creating the People's Battalion, a battalion which is going to die for the cause of the country, a battalion which will not rest contented unless and until they put this Government to an end, of course they will fight with a spirit of non-violence. They will fight with non-violence, but fight this Government to the finish so long as there is some spirit in the battalion soldiers, so long as there is that earnest spirit, it will be utilized in a better channel which will hasten the destruction of this Government. This battalion that has now been created will not be suppressed if that battalion is declared illegal to-morrow morning. It will not be suppressed if the Youth League is also declared illegal and if I am arrested in the middle of this fight, but it won't be suppressed if all of you who have assembled here give your assistance to the battalion to carry on the struggle to the last. Will you assist the Government or will you assist the institution which stands to show you how to destroy the Government. This is the time for you to choose. I ask how many of you are ready to join the battalion even if I am arrested

tomorrow and even if the workers are arrested tomorrow. One of you will then form the battalion and put an end to this regime. Therefore join the battalion in large numbers and see the wonderful work they are going to do tomorrow. I have no doubt that lot of young men will join this battalion. While I was in jail I heard of the spirit of self-sacrifice of brave school boys and girls who with patience bore the brunt of brutal lathi-charge of the police. That is the spirit of young India to-day. That is the spirit that has been created to-day and that spirit will not be at rest unless and until the British regime collapses and this British imperialism is put an end to. That is the situation.

Coming to the business proposition, by Government's declaring institutions illegal our resources of getting funds are also becoming meagre. People become nervous to contribute to our funds. But I hope you will not be afraid to contribute your mite to see that the battalion commences its work.

Comrades, I have nothing more to say. I hope you will join the battalion in large numbers. The meeting is dissolved (usual cries of the slogans).

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, pp. 175-178]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Submitted with the papers pertaining to the case of H. D. Rajah. Please see :

(i) the note and minute by Secretary and H. M. (Sir Ernest Hotson) of the 16th and 17th March 1931 ;

(ii) the note and minutes by Secretary, H. M. and H. E., dated 2nd, 3rd and 6th May ;

(iii) para. 2 (ii) of P. S. G.'s letter of 13th May to Mr. Gandhi;

(iv) para. 1 of Mr. Gandhi's letter of 6th June to P. S. G. ;

(v) (a) the office note (paras. 1-4) of 12th June ;

(b) paras. 1-6 of Secretary's note of 18th June ;

(c) the second para, of H. M.'s minute of 18th June ; and

(d) para. 2 of P. S. G.'s letter of 4th July to Mr. Gandhi.

2. In the main papers dealing with Mr. Gandhi's Memorandum of breaches of the settlement, it was suggested and approved that it would be sufficient to send to the Government of India relevant extracts from the correspondence exchanged between P. S. G. and Mr. Gandhi in connection with the case of H. D. Rajah, and also copies of the offending speeches and the C. P. M.'s judgment.

3. We may adhere to that decision in reply to the present D. O. letter from the Government of India (omitting copies of the speeches which the Government of India already have). The decision of the Government of Bombay accepting the view of the C. P. M. as to the violent nature of the speeches is contained in P. S. G.'s letter to Mr. Gandhi of the 4th July.

A draft is submitted.

Secretary

We cannot I think say more than we considered the speeches read as a whole were incitement to violence. And the C. P. M.'s makes it clear that he was of the same opinion.

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS

H. M.

I adhere to my previous opinion that there is not a strong, if any, case to keep Rajah in prison and I repeat my previous suggestion that the best course is to release him as an act of clemency. I think that if we persist in saying that his case is not covered by the part, we shall be overruled by the Government of India.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS

7th August

H. E. (P. S. G.)

We have held that Rajah's case is not covered by the agreement, and in this H. M., H. D. has agreed. If the Government of India overrule us and release a dangerous agitator, so much worse for us. There is no reason why we should ourselves incur that guilt. The case does not appear to me to be one for clemency at all. If he is rightly in prison, the longer we can keep him there the better.

We must go further than Secretary suggests and point to particular passages which support our view, e.g., the para, in the first speech beginning—

- (1) 'Comrades, at Peshawar' and the next one.
- (2) Beginning ' Comrades, these are not the days of talk'.
- (3) In the following para, the passage from ' Every day 10,000 people '.
- (4) On p. 4 of the report ' You must snatch your independence ' etc.
- (5) In the next para. ' You must rise and be prepared'.
- (6) In the next ' But bear you young men'.
- (7) On p. 13 ' Lost as be sacrifices '.

(8) On same page " Look at their. . . remarks. . . how the young men there have wrought freedom.

(9) In the second speech, p. 2 ' perhaps finally to give a death-blow'.

(10) In the next para. 'Can we compromise?' In the third speech, p. 12.

(11) ' There is no surrendering' on the next page.

(12) 'That mean Government' (followed by catalogue of crimes). But I see nothing in this file to explain Rajah's previous history, his connection with " the young Liberator and " and similar papers the article which show very clearly what he really meant when he talked about non-violence.

These facts must be brought to the notice of the Government of India if they have been overlooked.

(Sd.) J. E. B. HOTSON

7th August

Please mark clearly in the speeches the passages referred to in H. E.'s minutes. Also put up Rajah's previous history and show his connection with the ' Young Liberator '.

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS

8th August

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, pp. 179-181]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

The passages referred to in H. E.'s minute have been marked clearly in the copies of the speeches at p. 3-61 *ante*. Office would however respectfully point out that the second speech of Rajah on the 30th October (at pages 25-29 of the papers) from which passages (7 and 8) has been quoted in H. E.'s minute was not one of the speeches on which prosecution was based. It is not known if it was even produced in the Court to prove the intention of the speaker. (It was not referred to in the C. P. M.'s judgment.)

2. A note showing the previous history of Rajah and showing his connection with the " Young Liberator " has been prepared separately and is put up post.

Secretary,

Submitted for information.

2. I think that we should refer only to parts of speeches for which he was actually convicted.

On the other hand the Government of India, from the words in their letter, " if they are based on his speeches ", seem inclined to consider other

evidence of his violent character. We might therefore refer to his bad record and his activities as Editor of the ' Young Liberator' which is full of incitement to rebellion.

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS

12th August

H. M.

We must distinguish between the speech for which he was convicted and ether speeches. It may be left for Government of India to decide whether the former can be held to bring him under the terms of the settlement. We should cite our evidence regarding his character, as illustrated by his previous history and urge that this should be taken into consideration against him if the actual speech s thought to be on the border line, adding that his release would be dangerous just now.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS

13th August

Draft for approval.

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS

15 th August

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS

16th August

(Sd.) J. E. B. HOTSON

19th August

H.M.

H. E. (P. S. G.)

[H. O. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, p. 189]

D. O. No. D. 5974/31-Poll.

Simla, the 24th September 1931

My dear Collins,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your demi-official letter No. S.D. 2941, dated the 20th August 1931, I am desired to forward for the information of the local Government a copy of my demi-official No. D. 59/74/ 31-Poll, dated the 22nd September 1931 to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel regarding

H. D. Rajah.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) H. W. EMERSON

To

G. F. S. COLLINS, Esqr., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Home Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, p. 191]

D. O. No. D. 5974/31-Poll.
Simla, the 22nd September 1931

Dear Sardar Saheb,

Will you kindly refer to Mr. Gandhi's letter to me, dated 22nd July regarding the case of Mr. H. D. Rajah who was convicted in Bombay for certain speeches, copies of which were returned to Mr. Gandhi with my letter of 24th July.

2. Mr. Rajah's case has several times been examined by the Government of Bombay who have on each occasion reached that conclusion that speeches contained passages which incite to violence—a view which is supported by the opinion of the trying court that while the speaker offered lip-service to non-violence, his speeches were incentives to rise in revolt and put an end to the present Government.

The Government of India have examined the case and they agree with the Government of Bombay that it does not come under the scope of the amnesty. They regret therefore that they are not able to make any recommendation to the local Government in regard to it.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) H. W. EMERSON

To

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
Ahmedabad.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, p. 193]

*Extract from a statement by the Governor-General in Council,
published in the Gazette of India (Extraordinary),
dated the 24th August 1931.*

Complaint

(3) But cases—those of H. D. Rajah and Ratanji Dayaram were specifically referred to the Bombay Government. The Bombay Government in reply sent copies of speeches made by Rajah which in no way can be said to incite to violence. Ratanji Dayaram's burning of crop held in partnership is described as violence.

Reply of Local Government

(3) Ratanji Dayaram was convicted of deliberately burning his tenant's crop, in order that the revenue due to Government should not be paid. The land was leased to the tenant for a half share of the crop. The fact that the accused was a potential owner of a still undefined half share did not entitle him to burn the whole crop and the destruction of his tenant's property can only be regarded as an act of violence which precluded him from the benefit of the amnesty. The case of H. D. Rajah is under further reconsideration.

Congress Rejoinder

3. The facts about the latter case are that the land admittedly belonged to Ratanji Dayaram who was the owner of the land. The tenant was a co-sharer in the crop raised and was receiver of half of it. The crop was set fire to and destroyed by the owner Ratanji, it is admitted, not to deprive or rob his tenant of what was his legitimate due but to deprive the Government of their revenue which in normal circumstances he willingly paid but on this occasion he declined to pay having become a civil resister. Ratanji has alleged that his tenant had already removed a portion of the crop and that he burnt what was only a part of his own share. The value of the crop destroyed was Rs. 35 according to the prosecution itself, and the total loss caused by Ratanji to his tenant, the complainant, would, at the most, amount to Rs. 17-8-0. For this offence, in addition to six months rigorous imprisonment, Ratanji was fined Rs. 100. It is clear that Ratanji had no criminal intention but he is alleged to have burnt the crops to avoid payment of Government revenue as a civil resister only. It was at best a case for compensation to the complainant to the extent of the said damage for which the complainant would have filed a civil suit against Ratanji.

In a letter to Government on the subject, Gandhiji wrote: " I have now studied the judgment and evidence in this case. There is certainly no violence as contemplated in clause 13 of the Settlement. It is also moreover incorrect to say that the accused burnt his tenant's crop. The accused burnt his own crop which he owned jointly with the complainant Devalia Jagla. If the complainant suffered any damage it was open to him, as it is now, to bring a civil suit against the accused. But where, on the evidence itself and the finding of the judge, admitted by the Government, the crop was burnt in order to prevent officials from collecting revenue from selling the crop there was no question of intending to damage the partner."

Gandhiji also pointed out " the inconsistency of Government in releasing the co-accused Ranchhod who had no ownership in the crop and keeping Ratanji Dayaram who was admittedly joint owner of the crop."

The Government of Bombay, in reply, contended that Ratanji was only the potential owner of a still undefined half share. But the fact that the tenant

had removed a share of the crop, gave to Ratanji every right to deal with a portion of the rest as his own. With regard to the release of his co-accused, Government stated: "Enquiries have also been made regarding the release of Ranchhod whom you describe as a co-accused in the same case. It is now found that he was accused of abetment of the offence and that since Ratanji was then absconding he was tried and convicted separately. Ranchhod's release appears to have been recommended on the ground that he was not the principal offender and its sanction was clearly an oversight, which escaped notice owing to the very large number of prisoners who were then being released as rapidly as possible. I am to say, however, that the Government do not propose to re-arrest him at this stage."

It is however understood that the Collector recommended the release of both Ratanji and Ranchhod and far from the sanction of the latter's release being an oversight, the release was wholly unjustified. Ratanji Dayaram has by this time served out his full term of the substantive sentence.

H. D. Rajah's Case

The case of Sjt. H. D. Rajah is said to be still "under further reconsideration". There has been long correspondence on the subject between Mahatma Gandhi and the Government. Certified copies of the judgment and the evidence had to be obtained and legal opinion was also taken and submitted to Government showing that Sjt. Rajah's case does not involve even technical violence so as to justify his detention in jail even for a single day longer. And yet he has by this time served more than six months in jail since the settlement.

While going to the press we are informed that a reply has been received from Government to the effect that they have further reconsidered Mr. Rajah's case but find no justification to order his release.

The Government of India have examined the case and they agree with the Government of Bombay that it does not come within the scope of the amnesty. They regret therefore that "they are not able to make any recommendation to the local Government in regard to it".

The Congress disagrees with the view of Government and regards the detention of Mr. Rajah as unjust and in contravention of the settlement.

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, pp. 195-196*]

I have marked in blue against the copy of the Congress rejoinder in the *Bombay Chronicle* the portions with which we are concerned.

2. *Ratanji Dayaram and H. D. Rajah*—We need not argue any further.

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS
23rd October 1931

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

With regard to the case of H. D. Rajah, attention is respectfully requested in para. 2 of the office note of 12th June. The terms of imprisonment to which he has been sentenced are :

(i) Two years' (plus fine of Rs. 400 or 6 months R. I. in default, in respect of each charge) R. I. under section 124-A, Indian Penal Code (one year each on two charges, sentences to run consecutively) ;

(ii) Six months' R. I. under section 17 (1) and (2) of the Criminal Law Amendment Act (he was sentenced to six months on each charge, the sentences to run concurrently).

It is understood from H. D. (Proper) that the prisoner's nominal roll shows his sentence as two years and six months.

2. As regards the first term of two years to which he was sentenced on the *1st November 1930* and which he is at present undergoing it has been decided that Rajah is not entitled to its remission under the terms of the Delhi Settlement. No action is therefore necessary in that connection.

3. The second term of six months' R. I. under the Criminal Law Amendment Act to which he was sentenced on the *7th November 1930* and which he has not yet begun to serve will, however, it would seem, have to be remitted under the Delhi Settlement. We have not got a copy of the judgment in this case, but there can be hardly any doubt that the offences did not involve " violence or incitement to such violence ". In representing the case for the release of Rajah, Mr. Gandhi forwarded an opinion of " three legal friends " in which the judgment in this case was referred to, and he was informed in reply that Rajah's convictions under the C. L. A. Act were not taken into account by Government in deciding not to release him.

4. It is for consideration whether orders should now issue remitting the sentences inflicted under section 17 (1) and (2) of the Criminal Law Amendment Act.

Secretary

We may issue formal orders.

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS

24th October

H. M.

This will not be necessary if H. E. orders the release of prisoners as suggested by me. If he does not, then formal orders may issue as proposed above.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
27th October

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, pp. 197-198]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

With reference to H. M.'s minute of the 27th October, it has since been decided on other papers not to remit the sentences of the " C. D. O. prisoners " whose cases were held to be not covered by the Delhi Settlement.

2. Home Department (Proper) may accordingly be requested to issue formal orders remitting the sentences under section 17 (1) and (2) of the Criminal Law Amendment Act inflicted on H. D. Rajah. That Department may also be asked to consider (if it is necessary and in case it has not already been done), whether the two fines of Rs. 400 each imposed in respect of the two offences under section 124-A, I. P. C., should be formally remitted.

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES
17th November 1931

Secretary

HOME DEPARTMENT (PROPER)

H. D. Rajah was convicted under section 124-A, I. P. C., on 1st November 1930, and under section 17 (1) and (2) of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1908, on 7th November 1930, for offences connected with the C. D. O. movement and is entitled to have the fines amounting to Rs. 800 imposed on him under section 124-A, I. P. C., remitted in accordance with the orders in Government Memo. No. 8856/2-VII-C, dated the 25th March 1931. A draft G. R. is put up for approval.

I do not think we need inform Director of Information. The order is a formal one arising from the Delhi pact.

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS
20th November

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 750 (17)-A, p. 199*]

Prisoners :

Civil disobedience movement

Remission of sentence

H. D. Rajah

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY

HOME DEPARTMENT

Resolution No. 8856/2 (I)

Bombay Castle, 21st November 1931

RESOLUTION.—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 401 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, the Governor in Council is pleased in modification of the orders contained in paragraph 3 of Government Resolution No. 8856/2 (I), dated the 20th March 1931, to remit the sentences of six months' rigorous imprisonment passed upon prisoner, H. D. Rajah by the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Bombay, on the 7th November 1930, under section 17 (1) and (2) of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, XIV of 1908.

2. He is further pleased to direct that the aggregate fine amounting to Rs. 800 imposed on the prisoner under section 124-A, Indian Penal Code, should also be remitted in accordance with Government Memorandum No. 8856/2-VII-C, dated the 25th March 1931.

By order of the Governor in Council,

(Sd.) D. O'FLYNN

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS,
for Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

To

The District Magistrate, Poona,
The Inspector-General of Prisons,
The Inspector-General of Police,
The Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Criminal Investigation Department, Poona,
The Chief Presidency Magistrate, Bombay,
The Commissioner of Police, Bombay,
The District Superintendent of Police, Poona.
The Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

(Two impressions)

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL BRANCH)

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 1]

Extract from a minute by H. M., H. D.

Bombay Regulation. Must detenus under this be interned *within* the presidency ?

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
12th November 1931

Early action to put up papers or to start new references as the case may be, to be taken.

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS
12th November

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

The reply to the Honourable Member's query is in the negative. Under the second clause of section 1 of the Bombay Regulation XXV of 1827, the *local Government* has the power to detain a State prisoner in " any fortress, jail or other place *within the zilas subordinate to Bombay* ". Under section 5 of the State Prisoners Act, III of 1858, however, the *Governor-General in Council* may order the removal of any State prisoner so confined to " any other fortress, jail or place of confinement *within the territories under the Government of India* ".

2. It will be seen therefore that once the requirements of the Bombay Regulation have been fulfilled by the apprehension and detention of a State prisoner in any fortress, jail or other place in the Presidency of Bombay, the Government of India may direct the removal of such State prisoner to a place of confinement elsewhere so long as it is within the territories under the jurisdiction of the Government of India.

3. It may here be noted that when the arrest and internment of Mr. Gandhi under the Regulation of 1827 was being considered during the last C. D. O. campaign, the Government of India referred to a suggestion which had been made to intern him in a house in Burma if the Government of Burma had no objection, but for the reasons mentioned in their telegram they were not enthusiastic about the proposal. In reply they were informed of the Bombay Government's agreement that Mr. Gandhi's internment should be in a jail

in India and not in Burma and that if the place of internment was to be in this presidency, the Yeravda Jail would be the best.

4. Though not strictly relevant to the present issue, the Honourable Member may perhaps like to see the Standing Orders on the subject of the application of Regulation XXV of 1827 contained in the G. of I. letter No. 2303, dated the 31st August 1900 ; also the notes and minutes at pages 9A-9B of file 750 (5).

Secretary

(Sd.) G. F. S. COLLINS

H. M.

Thanks.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 3]

SECRET

TELEGRAM

From

Bombay Special;

To

Home, New Delhi.

Clear-the-line—

Your telegram No. 4-S dated the 1st January and paragraph 4 (a) of your Express Letter of 19th December. Bombay Government consider it important to arrest Gandhi as soon as possible after decision for action has been reached by Government of India. He is said to be leaving Bombay on Monday night and his arrest *en route* is considered by far the easiest method of avoiding publicity and excitement. If he is allowed to reach Ahmedabad his arrest will be attended with great difficulties and danger of disturbances. Bombay Government therefore wish to be allowed discretion to arrest at first favourable opportunity and suggest that if as soon as action is decided upon other provinces are warned that Gandhi's arrest is imminent longer notice might be dispensed with.

Copies to H. E. (P. S. G.)

H. M., H. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 5]

SECRET

TELEGRAM

No. 28, dated the 3rd January 1932

From

Home, New Delhi ;

To

Bombay Special, Bombay.

Clear-the-line—

Your telegram No. 3 of the 3rd instant.

The Government of India give full discretion in the matter to the Bombay Government, and have informed local Governments that arrest may be imminent.

[True copy]

(Sd.),

Asstt. Supdt., H. D. (Spl.)

3rd January 1932

Despd. Delhi—12-35 hrs.

Reced. Bombay—13-05 hrs.

Reced. in S.B.—13-20 hrs.

Decoded—13-35 hrs.

Copies to :

H. E. (P. S. G.)

H. M., H. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 7]

The following clear-line-telegram was sent this morning from P. S. G. office (using what they understood to be out next vacant number) :

From : Bombay Special.

To : Home, New Delhi.

Please see my telegram No. 3 of yesterday. Gandhi reported leaving Bombay tonight for Ahmedabad. May we arrest *en route*.

P. S. G. will send a copy after despatch, which should be placed on file. No answer need however be awaited as he consulted P. S. V. by telephone and obtained the assent of the Government of India to proposed action.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
(H. Secretary)
3rd January 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 21]

No. S. D. 15
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 3rd January 1932

RESOLUTION

The Governor in Council, after full consultation with the Government of India, is of opinion that the decision of the Working Committee of the All-India Congress Committee to restart the civil disobedience movement which resulted on the last occasion in grave danger to the security of the British Dominions from internal commotion is bound to result in similar effects on this occasion also and that these considerations require that Mr. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi who is a member of the aforesaid Working Committee and who is actively directing his energies towards the revival of the civil disobedience movement should be placed under restraint. He is further of opinion that it is not desirable to institute judicial proceedings against Mr. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, such proceedings not being adapted to the nature of the case.

2. In exercise therefore of the powers vested in him by Bombay Regulation XXV of 1827, the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that Mr. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi shall be restrained in the Yeravda Central Prison, during the pleasure of Government. The necessary warrant should be forwarded to the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, who should arrange to forward it together with Mr. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi to the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison.

By order of the Governor in Council,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Acting Secretary to Government of Bombay,
Home Department (Political).

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 25]

WARRANT

To

The Commissioner of Police, Bombay.

Whereas the Governor in Council, for good and sufficient reasons, has, under the powers vested in him by Bombay Regulation, XXV of 1827, resolved that Mr. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi shall be placed under restraint in the Yeravda Central Prison during the pleasure of Government, you are hereby directed to secure the said Mr. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi and arrange to forward him as soon as possible to the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison.

By order of the Governor in Council,
(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay
3rd January

Seal

Home Department,
Bombay Castle, 3rd January 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 33]

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEGRAM

Dated the 4th January 1932

From—District Poona.

To—Bombay Special, Bombay.

Clear-the-line

Gandhi and Vallabhbhai arrived safely at Yeravda about eight.

[True copy]

(Sd.),

Assistant Superintendent,
Home Department (Special).

4th January 1932.

Despd. Poona— ?

Reced. Bombay—09-26 hrs.

Reced. S. B.—09-40 hrs.

Decoded—09-50 hrs.

Copies to—

H. E. (P. S. G.)

H. M., H. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 35]

SECRET

TELEGRAM

No. 11

Dated 4th January 1932

To

Home, New Delhi.

Clear-the-line—

Reference paragraph 8 my letter December 21st S. D. 4093. Vallabhbhai Patel was arrested simultaneously with Gandhi under the Bombay Regulation at 3 hours this morning at Bombay and removed Yeravda Central Prison. Both prisoners arrived Yeravda 8 a.m. today without incident.

Bombay Special.
Approved by H. M.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 37]

Head Police Office
Bombay, 4th January 1932

My dear Maxwell,

Herewith I return duly executed the two warrants on Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel together with the jail receipt for the two prisoners.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) G. S. WILSON,
(C. of P.)

To

R. M. Maxwell, Esqr., C.I.E., I.C.S.

Submitted for information.

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES
4th January 1932

Secretary

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
4th January

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 39]

WARRANT

To

The Commissioner of Police, Bombay.

Whereas the Governor in Council, for good and sufficient reasons, has, under the powers vested in him by Bombay Regulation, XXV of 1827, resolved that Mr. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi shall be placed under restraint in the Yeravda Central Prison during the pleasure of Government, you are hereby directed to secure the said Mr. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi and arrange to forward him as soon as possible to the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison.

By order of the Governor in Council,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,

Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Home Department,
Bombay Castle, 3rd January 1932.

Executed and the prisoner handed over to Mr. Hurst, Superintendent of Police together with two jail committal warrants.

(Sd.) G. S. WILSON

4th January 1932

Complied with Receipt for Prisoner attached.

(Sd.).....

SEAL

Secretariat, Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 41]

WARRANT

To

The Commissioner of Police, Bombay.

Whereas the Governor in Council, for good and sufficient reasons, has, under the powers vested in him by Bombay Regulation, XXV of 1827, resolved that Mr. Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel shall be placed under restraint in the Yeravda Central Prison during the pleasure of Government,

you are hereby directed to secure the said Mr. Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel and arrange to forward him as soon as possible to the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison.

By order of the Governor in Council,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,

Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

HOME DEPARTMENT

Bombay Castle, 3rd January 1932

SEAL

Secretariat, Bombay,
Home Department.

Endorsed to F. E. SHARP,

Deputy Commissioner of Police for Execution.

(Sd.) G. S. WILSON,

Commissioner of Police

4th January 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 42]

Warrant duly executed by me at 3 a.m. on 4th January 1932. The prisoner together with two jail committal warrants has been handed over to Sub-Inspector Kamat with instructions to take him to Yeravda Central Prison and make him over to the Superintendent thereof.

(Sd.) F. E. SHARP,

Deputy Commissioner of Police, Bombay

4th January 1932

Complied with Receipt for Prisoner attached.

(Sd.) H. HURST,

Superintendent of C. I. D.

4th January 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 43]

Receipt for Convicts newly admitted into the Yeravda District Jail.

Name of the convicts	Caste	Name of the Taluka from which received	Date of admission into the prison
Received prisoners. Mr. M. K. Gandhi Vallabhbhai Patel			

Jail Office.

Dated 4th January 1932

(Sd.).....,
Jailor,
Yeravda Central Prison Jail.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 45]

CONFIDENTIAL

INSPECTOR GENERAL OF PRISONS
Bombay Presidency
Poona, 6th January 1932

Government of Bombay.

My dear Maxwell,

I had a talk with Gandhi to-day, about interviews, correspondence, newspapers etc.

The Home Member requested me to come and discuss these points with you. It is also necessary to discuss matters regarding his treatment in jail. Up to the present Yeravda has made the same arrangements for him as last time, and Vallabhbhai Patel is with him.

I propose therefore to see you on Saturday morning if this time is not inconvenient for you.

Laxton also wants me to go to Arthur Road Jail, so I can see him at the same time.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN

To

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., M.A. (Oxon), I.C.S., J. P.,
Secretary to Government, Home Department, Bombay.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 47]

CONFIDENTIAL

D. O. No. S.D. 116
HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)
Bombay, 7th January 1932

Your letter of the 6th instant, regarding your proposed visit to Bombay to discuss matters about Gandhi.

Saturday morning will be convenient to me.

Major R. V. MARTIN, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 49]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Please see para. 8 of o.n. dated 30th December 1931. As the G. of I. instructions require that the orders fixing the amount of allowance to be granted to a State prisoner should be passed before the execution of the warrant or as soon after as possible, draft orders sanctioning the grant of allowances to Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel are put up. On the last occasion we fixed an allowance of Rs. 100 to Mr. Gandhi and presumably the same amount should be sanctioned for him. The amount of allowance to Mr. Vallabhbhai is for orders.

C. F. BORGES,
Secretary
4th January 1932

H.M.
H. E. (P. S. G.)

There is nothing on the previous papers to show how the amount of Rs. 100 was arrived at on the last occasion, but it will be seen from A of Sir E. Hotson's minute at p. 9 of File 750 (5)-A and para. 5 of the note of the I. G. Prisons at p. 15 of the same that the latter thought it suitable after consulting Mr. Gandhi himself. The cost on account of State prisoners is payable by the Government of India and the latter accepted the charge. On the present occasion we did not specifically consult the Government of India before arresting Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel under the Regulation, but they had themselves previously suggested its use against " other selected leaders " and must therefore have been prepared to accept such obligations. It would

perhaps be rather difficult to make a distinction between the two prisoners and the amount of Rs. 100 may therefore be fixed for each.

H. M.

It is reasonable figure.

R.M. MAXWELL
5th January

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
6th January

H.E. (P. S. G.)
(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
6th January

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part 1, p. 53]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 118
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 7th January 1932

RESOLUTION

In pursuance of the resolution to restrain Mr. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi under Bombay Regulation, XXV of 1827, in the Yeravda Central Prison during the pleasure of Government, the Governor in Council is pleased to direct as follows.

2. An allowance of one hundred rupees per mensem is sanctioned for the maintenance of Mr. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi. This allowance should be remitted to the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison.

3. The District Magistrate of Poona, or in his absence from his headquarters his Personal Assistant, shall visit Mr. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi at least twice a month, and submit to Government after each visit a report regarding his health and treatment.

By order of the Governor in Council,
(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

To

The Commissioner, Northern Division,
The Commissioner, Central Division,
The District Magistrate, Ahmedabad,
The District Magistrate, Poona,
The Inspector General of Prisons,
The Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison,
The Accountant General, Bombay,
The Finance Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 61]

H. D. Special: Secretary's Note

Major Martin, Inspector-General of Prisons, discussed with me this morning the regulations which should be applied to Messrs. Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Patel while detained under the Regulation. He informs me that Mr. Gandhi is now much more reasonable than before, and he handed him the enclosed slip written by Mr. Gandhi stating what he wanted. Major Martin has no objection to the grant of these requests, subject to the usual supervision of interviews and letters, and to the exclusion of the *Free Press Journal* which is on his list. As regards visitors, I understand that H. M. intended that only personal relatives should be allowed to see Mr. Gandhi but Major Martin informs me that Mr. Gandhi does not press for interviews with politically-minded persons, and that all he wants is to see his personal associates and disciples from the Ashram (largely women and children) to whose admission Major Martin sees no objection at all. He will of course see that no political messages are sent, but Mr. Gandhi I understand, assured him that he does not intend to pursue political activities at present. He tells me that Mr. Gandhi's letters are very short and deal almost entirely with religious matters and benedictions of various kinds.

2. As regards Vallabhbhai Patel, the same restrictions may apply, but visitors may be confined more rigorously to personal relatives. Messrs. Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Patel being confined together, they will see each other's visitors, but this will not do any harm. Major Martin is going on the lines indicated for the present, but wishes to have a letter from Government in confirmation.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL

9th January

H. M.

We may agree for the present.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS

10th January

H. E. (P. S. G.)

Yes, but please let me know your views as to separating the two. I think they should be. Also what are the arrangements for medical inspection ?

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES,

(Governor).

11th January 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 63]

Please note what the medical arrangements were on the last occasion. The case will then be submitted to H. Member.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL

11th January

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

It appears from our papers that on the last occasion Mr. Gandhi was examined on his arrival at the Yeravda Central Prison by a full Medical Board consisting of the District Civil Surgeon, the Superintendent of the Prison and Lt. Col. Thomas (who had accompanied Mr. Gandhi on his journey from Surat to Yeravda). The Medical Board report was then published by a Press Note. He was next examined about a month after, and subsequently every fortnight by the District Civil Surgeon and the Superintendent of the Prison. Arrangements for medical examination were made by the Surgeon General presumably under confidential instructions issued by Secretary, G. D.

We have asked the D. M., Poona, to visit Mr. Gandhi at least twice a month and submit to Government after each visit a report regarding his health and treatment. Secretary, General Department, may perhaps be asked to arrange with the Surgeon General for the medical examination of Mr. Gandhi by the District Civil Surgeon and the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison as soon as possible and to submit a report to Government and a copy to P. S. G. We could then consider if a Press Note should be issued. The Surgeon General should presumably be also asked to arrange for a subsequent medical examination every fortnight or every month and submit reports to Government and copies to P. S. G.

2. It is also for consideration whether any special arrangements for medical examination are necessary in the case of Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel. It may be observed that the Regulation does not impose such obligations. The requirements in respect of the health of a State Prisoner are specified in section 3, 4 and 5 of the Regulation. We have taken action under 4. The Superintendent of the Prison will report in due course in respect of 3. It may be considered whether, in order to fulfil the requirements of section 5, we should call for an official report on the points referred to therein. If however these points have been discussed by Secretary with the I. G. of Prisons it may be necessary to take any further action in this respect.

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

Secretary.

Perhaps it would be on the safe side to have both prisoners overhanded in the first instance by the Superintendent of the Jail and the Civil Surgeon together, in order to have the result on record and not for publication.

If so, the orders to the Civil Surgeon will have to issue through the Surgeon General, and that is why G. D. acted on the last occasion.

After the first examination, it would seem sufficient to leave the prisoners in the ordinary medical charge of the Jail Superintendent. But perhaps there might be a fresh consultation with the Civil Surgeon at stated intervals — e.g. 3 months — and of course at any time if either prisoner were suffering from any serious illness.

The report under section 5 of the Regulation will be covered in the main by the initial report on the health of the prisoners, but the Superintendent may be asked to report formally in the terms of the section.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
12th January

H. M.

H. E.

I think both of them should be examined in the first instance and thereafter once a month in the case of Mr. Gandhi — once a quarter in the case of Mr. Patel. I should not separate them.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
13th January

H. E. has approved. Issue orders immediately in consultation with General Department.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
14th January

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Orders have to issue (1) re. the privileges to be allowed in respect of newspapers, letters etc., (2) about the medical examination, and (3) asking for a report under section 5 of the Regulation.

2. As regards (1) attention is invited to the official orders issued on the last occasion at pages 93-97 of File 750 (5)-A put up. Draft orders based somewhat on those lines are put up. It is not known if the Inspector-General of Prisons has considered the question of arranging for some one knowing Gujarati to be present when interviews take place. This seems an important matter and has probably been considered.

As regards medical examination, it seems that the I. G., Prisons, should be asked to make arrangements in Consultation with the Surgeon General. The latter has no concern with the health of prisoners and only comes in because

the Civil Surgeon, Poona, is being asked to help in the examination. Secretary, G. D., may see the draft unofficially with regard to paragraph 5.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
15 th January

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 69]

SECRET

No. S.D. 310
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 16th January 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E.,
Ag. Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that the Governor in Council has been pleased to issue the following orders with regard to the privileges to be allowed *for the present* to the State Prisoners Messrs. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel and regarding the arrangements to be made for their periodical medical examination.

2. *Periodicals and Newspapers.*—Both the prisoners should be allowed the following periodicals and newspapers : " *The Times of India* ", " *The Bombay Chronicle* ", " *The Leader* " (Allahabad), " *The Tribune* " (Lahore), " *The Hindu* " (Madras), " *The Indian Social Reformer*", " *The Modern Review* ", " *The Young India* ", and " *The Navjivan* ".

3. *Letters.*—Both the prisoners may, as requested by them, be allowed to write letters once a week or oftener with the previous permission of the Superintendent of the Prison. All correspondence to and from the prisoners should be censored by the Superintendent of the Prison. Vernacular letters which cannot be translated in the Prison should be sent to the Oriental Translator to Government for translation unless the District Magistrate can arrange to have them translated in his office. All objectionable correspondence should be withheld. In doubtful cases a reference should be made to Government. Any letters which the Superintendent considers should be seen by the Police should be forwarded by him to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C.I.D., Poona.

Health and periodical medical examination.—The two prisoners will remain in the medical care of the Superintendent of the Prison, but arrangements

should be made in consultation with the Surgeon General with the Government of Bombay for their full medical examination with as little delay as possible by the Civil Surgeon, Poona, in conjunction with the Superintendent and for a report of the examination to be submitted to Government at once. Similar arrangements should be made for subsequent medical examination by the same two officers of Mr. Gandhi once a month and of Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel once in three months. A copy of the report should in each case be submitted to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor. The Superintendent should also consult the Civil Surgeon, Poona, if at any time either prisoner appears to be suffering in health or is attacked by any serious illness.

I am to request that you will communicate to the prisoners, through the Superintendent, the orders in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 so far as they pertain to them with the omission of the instructions regarding censorship of correspondence in paragraph 3.

I am also to request that you will invite the attention of the Superintendent to the first sub-section of section 5 of the Bombay Regulation and ask him to furnish Government with a report required by this sub-section.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.).....,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

SECRET

No. S. D. 311
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 16th January 1932

Copies forwarded with compliments to—

The Commissioner, Northern Division,
The Commissioner, Central Division,
The District Magistrate, Ahmedabad,
The District Magistrate, Poona,
The Inspector-General of Police, Bombay Presidency,
The Surgeon General with the Government of Bombay,
The Deputy Inspector-General of Police,
The Criminal Investigation Department,
The Oriental Translator to Government,
The Secretary to Government, General Department.

By order of the Governor in Council,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
Ag. Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 75]

SECRET

TELEGRAM

No. 165, dated 14th January 1932

From

Home, New Delhi;

To

Bombay.

The Secretary of State has drawn attention to the desirability of seeing that, while Gandhi should be treated with consideration in jail, he should have no facilities for communication with persons outside which he could use for propaganda, and in particular that no press interviews should be allowed. The Government of India have no doubt that the Government of Bombay will agree entirely with these views. They would request that no press interviews should be allowed without previous reference to the Government of India.

[True Copy]

(Sd.),

Assistant Superintendent.

H. D. (Spl.)
15th January 1932
12-30 hrs.

Copies to—
H.E. (P. S.G.).
H. M., H. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 91]

SECRET

EXPRESS LETTER

No. S.D. 1145
Poona, dated 17th February 1932

To

Inspector General of Prisons,
Poona.

Reference para. 4 of Government letter No. S.D. 310, dated 16th January 1932 in which it was stated that Mr. Gandhi should be allowed visitors once

a week and the concession extended only to his personal relatives and to non-political associates and disciples from the Sabarmati Ashram, the orders of Government being obtained in all other cases. It is however observed from newspapers that the following persons among others were allowed the concession :

(1) }
 & } Pir Ali Desai and wife.
(2) }

(3) Lady Vithaldas Thackersey.

(4) Mrs. Vijayan.

(5) Mr. Damodardas Kalyanji.

(6) Professor Trivedi.

(7) Mr. S. D. Kalelkar.

(8) Sheth Punjabhai.

(9) Mr. Juthabhai.

It does not appear that any of these persons are personal relatives or in any way connected with the Ashram. A reference to Government letter No. S.D. 2299, dated 14th June 1930, will show that Lady Thackersey's request for a visit to Mr. Gandhi with three others was refused by Government on the last occasion.

S. D. Kalelkar appears to be the son of Dattatraya Kalelkar of the Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad, an active Congress worker who is at present under detention under section 3 of the E. P. O.

Please state on what grounds the abovenamed nine persons were allowed to interview Mr. Gandhi.

Bombay Special.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 93]

SECRET

No. 1416 of 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, dated 18th February 1932

Sir,

With reference to Government letter No. S.D. 1145, dated the 17th February 1932, I have the honour to state as follows :

According to Home Department No. S.D. 310, dated 16th January 1932, the persons who would be allowed to interview State prisoner M. K. Gandhi fall under the following three categories, viz. :

- (1) Personal relatives.
- (2) Non-political associates.
- (3) Disciples from the Ashram.

In my opinion persons who have been allowed interviews fall under one of the above-mentioned headings—

- (1) & (2) Pir Ali Desai and wife Mir Bano.

They are intimate friends of State prisoner M. K. Gandhi who has known them for a long time. State prisoner M. K. Gandhi assured me that they have nothing to do with politics. They have stopped in the Ashram for a considerable time and he (Gandhi) had to build a special place for them there. They left the Ashram in or about January 1931.

I have never read their names mentioned in any of the Newspapers in connection with Political activities. According to my judgment they come under the heading of Non-Political Associates.

(3) Lady Vithaldas Thackersey. As far as I know, and I was given to understand that she is purely a social worker, looking after an Orphanage. I consider her to be a Non-Political associate of M. K. Gandhi. I very much regret that I did not know about Government letter No. S.D. 2299, dated the 14th June 1930. I took over charge of this institution in April 1931.

(4) Mrs. Vijayan. Her proper name is Mrs. Hingorani, a Sindhi lady who was a patient in a private hospital in Poona (Mahta's) where she was undergoing some diabetic treatment under M. K. Gandhi's instructions. She wanted to know whether she should give up the treatment or not. She has not been known to take part in politics. In my opinion she came under the heading of Non-political associates.

(5) Mr. Damodardas Kalyanji. He is unknown to Political world according to M. K. Gandhi. He said that he was "purely a private friend, under his normal influence". Naturally I took him for a Non-Political associate.

(6) Professor Trivedi. He is a Government Servant and a personal friend of M. K. Gandhi, of a very long standing (Non-political associate).

(7) Mr. S. D. Kalelkar. A disciple from the Ashram, who has been there from infancy. In the letter that I received from the Ashram his name was not mentioned. Only four persons who were mentioned one of them being an old man of 75 who could hardly walk and had to be supported by two persons when brought to my office. This boy supported him on one side and I took him for a servant. He was never addressed as Kalelkar in my presence. Everybody called him Shankar (probably his Christian name). I am very sorry for this oversight.

(8) Sheth Punjabhai. An old man of 75 is a disciple from the Ashram. He is still living in the Ashram (Disciples from Ashram).

(9) Mr. Juthabhai. He was an attendant on No. 8. He hardly spoke to anybody. The only thing he did most of the time was to hold a napkin for the old man to spit.

Another interview was granted yesterday to Mira Ben, Mr. Valji and inmate of the Ashram for the last 10 years and Lilavati, a young widow of about 16, who is also an inmate of Ashram.

I very much regret if interviews have been given to persons considered undesirable by Government. In any case I assure the Government that all interviews took place in my presence and the presence of the Jailor, and there was no mention of Politics at all.

In this connection I would submit that I judge people from what I read about them in the newspapers. I suggest that some other arrangement may be made, so that the responsibility of allowing interviews should rest with the person who knows more about the people who ask for interviews with M. K. Gandhi than I do.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

SECRET

No. 155 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISON'S OFFICE :
Poona, 19th February 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Forwarded with Compliments —

The Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison reads the Government orders differently to my reading of them. I understand two categories—

1. Personal Relatives.
2. (a) Non-Political associates (of the Ashram) ; (b) Disciples from the Ashram.

It appears that either may be correct.

I admit it is very difficult for the Superintendent to know who is objectionable and who is not, unless their names happen to be known to him from Newspaper reports, or otherwise. I suggest that names should in future be submitted to the Superintendent one week before the interview is due, and they may then be forwarded either to Government for orders, or to some one detailed by Government for this purpose, such as the District Magistrate.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 99]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Submitted with reference to our letter to the I. G. of Prisons No. S.D. 1145, dated 17th February 1932 and the notes underlying it.

The Superintendent has misinterpreted our orders which however were capable of the interpretation placed by him. The intention was that the concession should be extended to non-political associates from the Ashram and to make this clear it would seem best to substitute " non-political inmates from the Sabarmati Ashram " for " non-political associates and disciples from the Sabarmati Ashram ". It would also seem desirable as suggested by the I. G. of Prisons that the two State prisoners should be asked to state a week before the names of persons coming within the above category whom they wish to see and the names could then be referred to the D. M.

If the above proposals are approved the following may perhaps be substituted for para. 4 of our letter :

" 4. *Visitors*.—Both the prisoners should be allowed visitors once a week. In the case of Mr. Gandhi the concession will extend to his personal relatives and non-political inmates of the Sabarmati Ashram, while in the case of Vallabhbhai Patel the visitors should be confined to personal relatives only; but so long as the two prisoners are confined together there is no objection to their being allowed to see each other's visitors. The two State prisoners should be asked to state a week before the names of any persons coming within the respective categories specified above whom they wish to see. The Superintendent should refer the names when received to the D. M., Poona and should be guided by the advice given by the latter. In all doubtful cases and in the case of persons not coming within the above categories the orders of Government should be obtained. No press interviews should in any circumstances be allowed without the express orders of Government in writing. The period of a single interview should be limited to 20 minutes as allowed to ' A ' Class prisoners. The general rules to be applicable to such interviews should be those detailed in paragraph 602(h) of the Jail Manual."

Secretary

The Superintendent has misread the orders, which are correctly understood by the I. G. Prisons. From the details now supplied however it appears that practically all the visitors have been members of the Ashram, and the only others whose admission is open to question are Lady Thackersey, Professor Trivedi and Miss Slade. The last is of course a member of the Ashram, but cannot be described as non-political. As regards Lady Thackersey, the previous paper do not disclose anything against her personally and deal only with her husband's former activities.

It is perhaps not quite fair to throw the onus of discrimination on the Superintendent of the Prison. It would also not be fair to place the duty on the D. M., Poona, who has other things to do and is not in possession of the personal record of individuals from outside his district.

While it was not intended that any non-relative from outside the Ashram should be allowed to see Gandhi, I am not sure that it is necessary to be so strict. The reports which have appeared in the press of visits paid to him have done far more good than harm and have made it easier for the public to dismiss Gandhi from their minds. Perhaps therefore the following classes of visitors might be allowed :

(1) Personal relatives.

(2) Non-political inmates of the Sabarmati Ashram (as regards whom Gandhi's own certificate may be accepted).

(3) Non-political personal friends from outside the Ashram of whom Gandhi may furnish a general list for the approval of Government in the first instance, with the understanding that others might be admitted with the previous approval of Government in each case.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
23rd February

H.M.

I agree to this.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
23rd February

H.E.

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
25th February 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 103]

No. S.D. 1560
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 3rd March 1932

To

The Inspector General of Prisons.

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your endorsement No. 155, dated the 19th February 1932, regarding the classes of visitors to be allowed to see State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi, I am directed by the Governor in Council to state that the following should be substituted for para. 4 of my letter No. S.D. 310, dated 16th January 1932 :

4. *Visitors*.—Both the prisoners should be allowed visitors once a week :

In the case of Mr. Gandhi the concession will extend to the following classes of visitors :

(1) Personal relatives.

(2) Non-political inmates of the Sabarmati Ashram (as regards whom Gandhi's own certificate may be accepted).

(3) Non-political personal friends from outside the Ashram, of whom Gandhi may furnish a general list for the approval of Government in the first instance, with the understanding that others might be admitted with the previous approval of Government in each case.

In the case of Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel the visitors should be confined to personal relatives.

So long, however, as the two prisoners are confined together there is no objection to their being allowed to see each other's visitors.

In all other cases the previous order of Government should be obtained. No press interviews should in any circumstances be allowed without the express orders of Government in writing.

The period of a single interview should be limited to 20 minutes as allowed to " A " Class prisoners. The general rules to be applicable to such interviews should be those detailed in para. 602 (h) of the Jail Manual.

2. The two prisoners should be informed of the revised orders.

I have, etc.,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

No. S.D. 1561
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 3rd March 1932

Copies forwarded with compliments to—

The Commissioner, N. D.,
The Commissioner, C. D.,
The District Magistrate, Ahmedabad,
The District Magistrate, Poona,
The Inspector-General of Police, Bombay Presidency,
The Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C. I. D.

with reference to Government Endorsement, No. S.D. 311, dated 16th January 1932.

By order, etc.,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 105]

SECRET

No. 146 of 1932

From

Major R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 17th February 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter I have received from Mr. M. K. Gandhi. He has raised again the question of interviews between him and other prisoners in the Yeravda Main Jail or Camp Extension. In this connection I would refer you to Home Department (Special), No. S.D. 4349-Secret, dated 4th October 1930. This subject caused a lot of trouble the last time he was interned in Yeravda Central Prison and I visited Mr. Gandhi yesterday and informed him that I still do not approve of him seeing other prisoners. He is however very firm on the point and I expect will go to his usual length to obtain his demands.

I would therefore suggest that the concession be granted him on the following lines :

(1) Interviews to be permitted with not more than three prisoners at one time, and not oftener than every two weeks.

(2) The interviews not to be treated by either side as a means of enquiring into the treatment or conduct of other prisoners in the Jail. The Jail arrangements, discipline and political subjects not to be discussed.

(3) The interviews to take place in the Yard where Mr. Gandhi is confined.

(4) Interview time 20 minutes.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,

Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. III]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Letter No. S.D. 4349, dated the 4th October 1930, quoted by the Inspector-General of Prisons will be found at page 253 of File No. 750 (5)-A put up. It contains orders passed on the last occasion with "regard to the grant of permission to Gandhi to interview his friends undergoing imprisonment in the Yeravda Jail who were ill or were reported to have been unlawfully treated.

2. Presumably Surendranath referred to in Gandhi's letter is Surendranath Gopiram Gupta, a short history of whose antecedents is given in the note prepared by office attached at page 5 *ante*. Ramdas is Gandhi's son. Office has no information regarding the others.

3. Presumably Government will not agree to grant any general concession of the nature asked for by Mr. Gandhi or the concessions suggested by the Inspector-General of Prisons. Permission may perhaps be specifically given to see his son Ramdas and the Inspector-General of Prisons informed that Government regret that they are unable to permit interviews with any prisoners other than personal relations.

H. M.

I am opposed to any such concession, even in the case of his son.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
25th February

H. E. (P. S. G.)

On the last occasion Mr. Gandhi was allowed this concession in order to prevent him from hunger-striking. The orders are at page 253 of File 750 (5), from one point of view interviews with prisoners are less objectionable than those with outsiders, since the propaganda effect, if any, is confined to prison.

It is not clear whether concessions on the line suggested by the Inspector-General of Prisons would satisfy Mr. Gandhi. It would probably not take him long to discover some grievance or other, which would be followed by attempts to interfere with Jail discipline. But if the proposed rules were faithfully observed, the interviews would not be very objectionable. It is for orders whether the Inspector-General of Prisons' proposals may be accepted.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
24th February

H.M.**H.E.**

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 113*]

The accompanying letter has been drafted on the lines suggested by H. M. and is for approval.

I am not sure whether it is intended to proceed any further with the case in the meanwhile. The Government of India are not very likely to help us, and Mr. Gandhi's last letter to Major Martin showed that he was getting impatient. If any concession is to be allowed it would be better to make it before rather than after Mr. Gandhi has exploited the usual threat of hunger-strike. Perhaps he might be allowed to see his son Ramdas in the meanwhile, and the other concessions suggested by the Inspector-General of Prisons would be considered further after we hear from the Government of India.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
27th February

H.M.

The letter may issue. As regards his son I think the best course would be to remove him to another jail and to grant him one interview with his father, as a special concession, before his removal.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
25th February

H. E.

I agree that an interview with his son might be permitted. As regards the removal of the son this might be considered later.

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
1st March 1932

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 115*]

SECRET

Extract from letter No. S.D. 1517, dated the 2nd March 1932, from the Government of Bombay, Home Department of India, Home Department.

I am directed to state that Mr. Gandhi has lately made a request to the Jail authorities to allow him interviews with other political prisoners confined in the Yeravda Jail, including his son Ramdas. On the last occasion when Mr Gandhi was confined at Yeravda, he threatened to go on hunger-strike unless he was allowed a similar concession, which he used in a manner

prejudicial to jail discipline. On the present occasion, Mr. Gandhi states that he has no desire to have political discussions with these prisoners or to interfere with jail discipline, but even if interviews were allowed subject to suitable restrictions on these points, it is not improbable that the concessions would lead to further demands or attempts to interfere with the jail management. Moreover, although political subjects might not be discussed at such interviews, there is of course no guarantee that the prisoners permitted to see him would not afterwards pretend to carry messages from him to other prisoners or use the concession for the purpose of propaganda after their own release. It is therefore on general grounds most undesirable that Mr. Gandhi's request should be granted, but if its denial were followed by hunger-strike, there is no doubt that the effect would be to arouse once more the waning interest in Mr. Gandhi's personality, with consequent deterioration in the general situation.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 117]

SECRET

Very Urgent

No. 186 of 1932

From

Major R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 2nd March 1932

Sir,

The attached letter received from M. K. Gandhi is forwarded for information in continuation of this office Nos. 146 of 17th February 1932 and 169 of 25th February 1932. It is requested that very early orders may please be passed on the question of interviews between the detenue and other prisoners confined in Yeravda Main and Camp Jails who he wishes to see.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 121]

Submitted with reference to the orders on p. 11 *ante*, a draft letter (with f. c.) to the Inspector-General of Prisons is put up for approval.

The orders about visitors have already issued on another file.

(Sd.).....
3rd March

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 127]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 2012
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 7th March 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

I am directed to say that Government think it desirable that Mahadev Haribhai Desai, who was State Prisoner, Gandhi's Private Secretary before the latter's internment and who was convicted at Ahmedabad on the 5th ultimo under section 21 of Ordinance II of 1932 and sentenced to one and a half years' R. I. and a fine of Rs. 200 in default 3 months' R. I., should be sent to the Yeravda Central Prison and permitted to the State Prisoner Gandhi's convict. . . attendant. I am to request that you will make the necessary arrangements at an early date.

I have, etc.,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

No. S.D. 2013, dated 7th March 1932

Copy forwarded with compliments—

The Commissioner, N. D.,
The Commissioner, C. D.,
The Inspector-General of Police, Bombay Presidency,
The Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C. I. D., Poona,
The District Magistrate, Ahmedabad,
The District Magistrate, Poona.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 131]

Dear Major Bhandari,

You have kindly given me a copy of the fresh instructions issued by the Government about the weekly visits.

I appreciate the trust reposed in me regarding the determination as to who shall be considered political inmates of the Ashram. I am anxious to be true to the trust. But before I could do so, there should be a common definition of the adjective, " political" between the Government and me. I take " political " to mean those who are politically minded and are actually taking part in politics as a part from civil resistance. For if by political are meant those who have been heretofore imprisoned as civil resisters or are believers in the doctrine of civil resistance, then there is no non-political inmates in the Ashram. If however the meaning is I have given it, there are only three political inmates, I mean Sjts. Mahadev Desai, Pyarelal and Devdas Gandhi. But if I may not see the first two, I may not see Devdas Gandhi for they are like Devdas to me. As it so happens, they are all incarcerated. I may also mention that at the present moment there are only boys and girls and the few adults who are reserved for looking after the youngsters and the multifarious industrial activities of the Ashram.

It is difficult, too, for me to submit a list of non-Ashram friends till I know the definition that the Government have in mind of the term " political". I shall await reply to this before I submit a fairly full list for approval. But meanwhile, I give below illustrative names of those friends whom I regard as non-political and whom I would put in the same category as my relatives.

Lady Thakersey's residence—Yeravda hill. She is a social worker. She helped me during my serious illness in 1923 when I was a patient in the Sassoon Hospital.

Professor Trivedi of the Agricultural College, Poona. He stands to me in the same close contact as Lady Thakersey.

Yeshwant Prasad Desai, millowner, residing in Matunga. He nursed me during the same illness and took up his abode in Poona for helping me.

Pyare Ali and his wife living in retirement at a retreat near Thana where they have taken in a few Muslim orphans. They lived nearly a year at the Ashram. They are a deeply religious couple.

These friends are in no sense political.

Pending reply to this letter, I have written to the manager of the Ashram to send those inmates who may wish to visit me.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 135]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Secretary's Note

" Non-political " means " not taking any part in politics ". It is characteristic of Mr. Gandhi that he ignores the exclusive character of the order and tries to raise a discussion as to what it includes. It is also characteristic that he assumes that the only meaning of " political " is " pro-Congress ". The orders were meant to exclude from interviews not only those of Congress persuasion but all politicians.

It is not necessary to discuss his instances of non-political friends until he has sent his full list after learning the meaning of " non-political ".

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
8th March

H.M.

I agree.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
9th March

SECRET

No. S.D. 2123

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 11th March 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 196, dated the 7th March 1932, I am directed to request that State Prisoner, Gandhi may be informed that the term " non-political " used in the orders of Government regarding the classes of visitors who may be permitted to interview him means " not taking any part in politics ".

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 139]

SECRET

Extract from letter No. D. 740/32-Poll, dated the 10th March 1932, from the Government of India, Home Department to the Government of Bombay, Home Department.

Subject—Mr. Gandhi

I am directed to refer to your secret letter No. S.D.1517 of the 2nd March 1932.

* * * * *

In regard to the request made by him that he should be allowed interviews with other political prisoners and, in particular, with his son Ramdas, the Government of India appreciate the difficulties that may arise from acceding to his request. At the same time, these difficulties are not different in principle from those which inevitably arise from the confinement in the same prison of number of prisoners convicted for political offences. Their intercourse does assist the furtherance of plans and encourages propaganda on their release. Nonetheless it is not practical completely to isolate them. In the case of State prisoners there is a moral obligation to allow association with suitable prisoners, where this can be arranged and in the present instance it would appear reasonable that Mr. Gandhi's request should be accepted within reasonable limits and, in particular, in regard to interviews with his son. If the concession is abused, as apprehended by the Government of Bombay, it could be withdrawn. Moreover, if prisoners on their release use any messages purporting to come from Mr. Gandhi for propaganda purposes, the publication by the Government of Bombay of the undertaking given by Mr. Gandhi would discredit him and the messages. On the other hand if Mr. Gandhi were to go on hunger-strike on account of the refusal of a request which the public in India and abroad would regard as not unreasonable, the harm done to Government would be very real. On the whole, therefore, the Government of India consider that the wise course is to give facilities for interviews within reasonable limits, to hold Mr. Gandhi to his undertaking and to withdraw the concession if it is abused.

3. Pending a reply from the G. of I., it was decided to allow Mr. Gandhi one interview with his son Ramdas and the I. G. of Prisons was asked to inform Mr. Gandhi that his request to see other prisoners was under the consideration of Government. As the G. of I. seem to be strongly in favour of our acceding to Mr. Gandhi's request within reasonable limits, it is for consideration whether the concessions suggested by the I. G. of Prisons should be approved on the definite understanding that if any of the conditions are abused in any way, the concession will be forthwith withdrawn. It seems from Mr. Gandhi's letter at p. 167 that he is acceptable

to the I. G. P.'s conditions *vide* his assurance " I need scarcely say that I have no desire to have any political discussion with them. And I can have no idea whatsoever of interfering with jail discipline."

(Sd.) E. L. V.
12th March

Secretary

As regards interviews with other prisoners, the last instructions issued in the subject are at page 187. In view of the reply now received from the Government of India (p. 203) to our letter (p. 177), the recommendations of the I. G. of Prisons at page 165 may perhaps be accepted.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
14th March

H. M.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
15th March

H. E.

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
16th March 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 143]

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS
BOMBAY PRESIDENCY
Poona, 15th March 1932

My dear Maxwell,

I enclose a letter I have just received from M. K. Gandhi. May I please have a reply by return regarding interviews with other prisoners. He seems to be getting very agitated on the subject.

I have no knowledge regarding the illness of the prisoner he mentions.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN

To

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire,
C.I.E., M.A. (Oxon), I.C.S., J.P.,
Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

H. Secretary

Orders have already been passed. Please see that they issue promptly.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
16th March

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 143]

SECRET

No. S.D. 2357

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 16th March 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Subject.—Interviews between Mr. Gandhi and other prisoners in the Yeravda Jail or Camp Extension.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. S.D. 1568, dated the 4th March 1932, I am directed to state that Mr. Gandhi may be allowed to see other prisoners in the Yeravda Main Jail or Camp Extension on the conditions suggested by you, namely :

(1) Interviews to be permitted with not more than three prisoners at one time, and not oftener than once in two weeks.

(2) The interviews not to be treated by either side as a means of enquiring into the treatment or conduct of other prisoners in the Jail. The Jail arrangements, discipline and political subjects not to be discussed.

(3) The interviews to take place in the office of the Superintendent of the Prison.

(4) Interview time 20 minutes.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 151]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 237 of 1932

From

Major R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Bombay.

Subject.—Interviews between Mr. Gandhi and other prisoners in the Yeravda Jail or Camp Extension.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd March 1932

Sir,

With reference to Government letter, Home Department (Political), No. S.D. 2357, dated the 16th March 1932, I have the honour to report regarding para. 3 it is now considered better for the interviews to take place in the Superintendent's office with Mr. Gandhi alone. His companions in the yard make the interview difficult to control. I have instructed the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, to take the interviews in his office in future.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,

Major, I.M.S.,

Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Submitted for information I. G., Prisons, action may be approved.

C. F. BORGES
23rd March

H. M.

G. A. THOMAS
24th March

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Submitted with reference to the Assistant Secretary's note of 23rd March 1932 approved by H. Member with a draft letter to the I. G. of Prisons for approval.

2. It does not seem to be necessary to send a copy of this letter, and of the letter to which it is a reply, to the Government of India with reference to our letter No. S.D. 2491, dated 23rd March 1932.

C. F. BORGES
31st March

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 155]

Below letter No. 2104, dated 8th March 1932 from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 207 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 10th March 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of orders.

Correspondence between persons convicted during the present movement with others in another prison is generally undesirable, and I have stopped most letters which have been referred to me, by Superintendents of Prisons.

As the State prisoner, M. K. Gandhi is now also starting to write such letters—I think a ruling of Government is required, as to whether civil disobedience prisoners should be allowed to write to each other from different jails. The attached letter I consider objectionable on account of the first three lines in the English translation.

I am informed that a long letter has been received from Miss Slade for M. K. Gandhi, I have not yet seen it but if it contains unobjectionable matter as regards jails and politics, should he be given the letter ?

(Sd.).....,
Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 157]

Letter No. 2104, dated 9th March 1932, from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, to the Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, Poona.

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by State prisoner, M. K. Gandhi, to the address of the Superintendent, Visapur Temporary Prison, for favour of disposal.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 159]

Translation of accompanying Gujarati letter.

Dear Kaka,

How are you ? What food you get? How many are with you and who are they ? How is Prabhudas ? What food he gets ? Inform me about your weight and that of Prabhudas. Similar questions I have asked Mr. Quinn fearing you might not get this letter. What are you reading ? We both are alright here. For the present I take dry dates, lime-juice, green vegetables and almond bread. I am not constipated. If my weight goes down I will take milk again. I intend writing " Bal Gita " and have commenced writing " Imamsaheb's Siran ". I am studying position of stars and for that I take assistance of that Gujarati book which is translated from Marathi and also see the maps given in *Weekly Times*. I get up at night and see the position of stars. This time I hardly send for books. But I get some books from America. I think I will not be able to study Marathi this time. I feel weak and require more sleep. Perhaps after long rest I might regain my strength. How is Narhari ? My blessings to you all.

Yours,
BAPU

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part 1, p. 161]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S. D. 2475
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 22nd March 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 207, dated the 10th March 1932, in which you ask for a ruling whether civil disobedience prisoners should be allowed to write to one another from different jails, I am directed to inform you that the normal jail rules in this respect as regards convicts should be adhered to. Mr. Gandhi, however, being a State Prisoner, is in a different position and should be allowed to receive letters from other prisoners and to

write to them subject to the conditions prescribed in paragraph 3 of Government letter No. S. D. 310, dated the 16th January 1932, with respect to correspondence with outsiders, but the Superintendent shall have the discretion to withhold any letters which, on account of references to political or jail matters or for other reasons, are considered by him to be objectionable. Miss Slade's letters to Mr. Gandhi should be dealt with on these lines. Government see no objection to the letter addressed by Gandhi to the Superintendent of the Visapur Jail with the letter to convict Kalelkar attached to it being allowed to go on. The cover containing these two letters is herewith returned.

I have, etc.,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 167]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Submitted with reference to Government letter No. S.D. 2123, dated 11th March 1932, and the notes underlying it.

2. Apparently Mr. Gandhi is again trying to force from Government a more comprehensive definition of the term " non-political". It is for this reason that he suggests that the interpretation given by him in his letter of 6th March at pp. 195-197 *ante* has been accepted by Government. It may, however, be observed that his interpretation is that " political" means " those who are politically minded and are actually taking part in politics *as apart from civil resistance* ". Secretary has, however, made it clear in his note of 8th March 1932 at p. 199 *ante* that " the orders were meant to exclude from interviews not only those of Congress persuasion but *all* politicians". To accept Mr. Gandhi's statement contained in his present letter that Government's definition of the term " non-political" corresponds to his would mean that we accept his interpretation as given in his previous letter. Perhaps it will be best to dispel all doubts on the point by stating what we mean.

3. Fortunately, however, the five illustrative names do not present any great difficulty as none of them appear to have taken any active part in the movement, these are—

- (1) Lady Thackersey,
- (2) Professor J. P. Trivedi,
- (3) Mr. Yeshwant Prasad Desai,
- (4) {
- & } Mr. and Mrs. Pyare (or Pir) Ali Desai.
- (5) }

There is nothing known against Lady Thackersey personally (*vide* " A " of Secretary's note dated 23rd February 1932 at p. 161 *ante*) and there appears to be no objection to admitting her name.

With regard to Professor Trivedi, attention is invited to the Papers at pp. 59-69 of File 800(40) (2), and particularly to the Chief Secretary's D.O. letter of the 1st instant to the Director of Agriculture, from which it will be seen that Government considered that the Professor had acted with lack of discretion in visiting Mr. Gandhi and also that his conduct in acting as an intermediary in connection with the interviews of other persons was very unsatisfactory. Apparently Government would not view with favour the idea of Government servants visiting Mr. Gandhi, and since Professor Trivedi has already seen him once, we have a good case to point this out and say that while Government do not consider that Government servants should be included in the list of visitors they will have no objection to Professor Trivedi visiting him again if Mr. Gandhi desires to see him for any particular purpose.

As regards Nos. 3 to 5 we have no information on our records except the following in the Secret Abstract of 1922 regarding Mr. Yeshwant Prasad Desai :

" *Bombay, October 9.*—During the week Manilal V. Kothari addressed two meetings under the auspices of the Parsi Rajkiya Sabha at the Marwadi Vidyalaya. . . The subject was " The Declining Empire and the Present Situation ". Kothari after his speech put up to auction a gold fountain-pen presented by B. F. Bharucha for the Gujarat Vidyapith and eulogised the patriotic services of Bharucha. The pen was eventually knocked down for Rs. 501 to YESHWANT PRASAD DESAI of Bhavnagar who had already donated Rs. 25,000 to the Gujarath Vidyapith. ..". Before coming to a decision in their case Government will no doubt desire to know something of their antecedents, and the accompanying express letters to the Commissioner* of Police, Bombay, and the D. M., Thana, calling for brief accounts of the antecedents of Mr. Yeshwant Prasad Desai and Mr. and Mrs. Pir Ali Desai† respectively may therefore issue if approved.

Secretary

The express letters may issue.

See also memo.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
6th April

C. S.

I have explained this matter to the Director of Agriculture.

R. D. will not object to a communication to Mr. Gandhi as at A opposite.

(Sd.) R. D. BELL
8th April

See H.D.

Note.— *Mr. Y. P. Desai resides at Matunga.

†Mr. Pir Ali Desai lives near Thana.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 178]

H.M.

I see no harm in these people visiting Mr. Gandhi. He should be honoured so far as possible in small matters.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
14th April

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 179]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 2990
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 15th April 1932

To

The inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 263, dated the 31st March 1932, I am directed to request that Mr. Gandhi may be informed, with reference to the five illustrative names furnished by him of persons who are likely to wish to visit him or whom he may desire to see, that Government have no objection to the marginally named four persons visiting him. As regards Professor J.P. Trivedi of the Agricultural College, Poona, it may be pointed out to Mr. Gandhi that the Professor has already visited him once and that, while Government do not consider that Government servants should be included in the list of visitors, they will not object to Professor Trivedi interviewing him again if Mr. Gandhi desires to see him for any particular purpose.

I have, etc.,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 183]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 334 of 1932

From

Lt-Col. E. E. Doyle, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 23rd April 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to forward for the orders of Government a further list of non-political associates submitted by M. K. Gandhi—also copies of the Superintendent's covering letter and a copy of reply to State Prisoner, Gandhi.

I would recommend for the consideration of Government that their original orders stand and that the suitability or otherwise of so called " non-political associates " to visit him should be decided by Government. No inconvenience is likely to be caused if application to see any particular person is made in time.

The Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, cannot be expected to have the same knowledge at his disposal as is the case with Government and therefore should not be required to decide this point.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 185]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 3590 of 1932

From

Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Central Prison, Yeravda ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 22nd April 1932

Sir,

With reference to part 3 of letter No. S.D. 1560, dated 3rd March 1932, from the Secretary to Government, Home Department, Bombay, forwarded under your endorsement No. 191, dated 4th March 1932, I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter from State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

2. In this letter, I wish to draw your attention to a portion underlined in red by me. As my knowledge about persons applying for interviews may be quite superficial, or entirely wanting, I suggest that discretion should rest with a person who is more likely to know all about them.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 187]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
21st April 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

Major Bhandari has read to me the reply received from Government to my letter of the 13th April addressed to Major Martin regarding, among other things, an illustrative list I had submitted of non-political associates who might visit me. In continuation of that correspondence I now submit as full a list of names of non-political associates as I can think of. I have given a brief description of the persons mentioned in the list. It is by no means

an exhaustive list. On the contrary I have confined myself to those whom I may wish to see in the near future. These are in no sense political people. I, therefore, suggest that when I want to see others outside the list, the Superintendent may be permitted to decide whether they come within the prescribed limits or not. For I find that if each case not mentioned in the list has to be submitted to Government, the delay caused in receiving the reply is likely to defeat the very object of my application.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 189]

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY

Descriptive List of Non-Political Associates

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Indira Nehru | Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru's daughter, 14 years old and studying in Mr. Vakil's School in Poona. |
| 2. | Jehangir Vakil and his wife. | Educationist, Conducting a model school in Poona where Indira Nehru is studying. |
| 3. | Hemprabha Devi | Wife of Babu Satishchandra Das Gupta purely devoted to Khadi work at Sodepur (Bengal). |
| 4. | Raihana Tyebji | Daughter of Mr. Abbas Tyebji, a permanent invalid. |
| 5. | Hiralal Shah | Merchant residing in Bombay given to astronomical pursuits. |
| 6. | Damodardas Kanji | Private gentleman in Bombay, holding intimate contact with the Ashram. |
| 7. | Karamchand Chunilal | Share broker in Bombay. |
| 8. | Hirawanti Mansukhlal | Widow of the late Mr. Mansukhlal Chunilal, a philanthropist. |
| 9. | Nargis Captain | An invalid, widow of the late Mr. Captain of the Indian Postal Service. |
| 10. | Ramaben | Student of Gujarat Vidyapith, daughter of Seth Ranchhodlal Amritlal of Ahmedabad. |
| 11. | Prabhashankar Parekh | Private gentleman of Rajkot, father of an Ashram girl. |

-
- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12. | Byram Khambatta
Tehmina Khambatta. | and An osteologist of Bombay and his wife. |
| 13. | Manjukeshu Mashruvala. | Niece of a member of the Ashram and in charge of a charitable dispensary. |
| 14. | Sushilakumari | Student, Medical College, Delhi, Sister of Sjt. Pyarelal of the Ashram. |
| 15. | Sushilakumari | School mistress, Girls' School, Rajkot. |
| 16. | Dinkar Mehta | An invalid student of the Vidyapith under treatment of Dr. Muthu. |
| 17. | Puratan Buch | An invalid student of the Vidyapith. |

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 191]

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS
BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

Poona, 23rd April 1932

Dear Mr. Gandhi,

Reference your D. O. of 21st instant.

I have submitted to Government the further list of non-political associates whom you may desire to see—and have also asked for a decision on your suggestion that the Superintendent be permitted to decide whether others outside the list may visit you or no.

I shall communicate to you the orders of Government as soon as they are received.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

To

Mr. M. K. Gandhi.

[True Copies]
(Sd.) S. R. CHAUBAL

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 193]

Submitted.

A careful search has been made in our files but there is no information in them concerning the persons mentioned in Mr. Gandhi's list, except in the case of Nos. 2 and 3 and possibly 9.

2. No. 2, Jehangir Vakil, and his wife have been residing in Poona since 1929. Prior to this they were at Shantiniketan in Bengal, where they are reported to have worked in the Vishva Bharti College (Dr. Rabindranath Tagore's Institution). In June 1929 they opened a model school in Poona Cantonment called "The Children's Own School" with about a dozen Parsi children on its rolls, which is believed to be run on a combination of the Montessori and Dr. Tagore's systems. It appears from two of Vakil's letters noticed in censorship—one addressed to B. F. Bharucha of Bombay, and the other to Jawaharlal Nehru that he is not much of a believer in Mr. Gandhi's methods but is strongly inclined to the Bolshevik creed.* (In any case he would appear to be a potentially dangerous man and it would not be advisable to permit him or his wife to interview Mr. Gandhi.)

3. No. 3, Hemprabha Devi, has been in correspondence with Mr. Gandhi and recently one of her letters to him and a document accompanying it, which was an indenture conferring on the Khadi Pratishthan (of which Hemprabha Devi is the Secretary) of Sodepur the copyright to translate into Bengali and publish Mr. Gandhi's writings and speeches, was withheld under the orders of Government as the list of articles, etc., appearing in the indenture included certain objectionable and proscribed publications. She appears to be an active Khadi agent of the Congress.

For orders.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL

4. With regard to No. 9, Mrs. Nargis Captain, the C. C. of P., recently requested that orders might be passed to one Mrs. Nargis D. S. Captain as she was reported to be the Peshawar connection of the red shirts in Bombay, and censorship was imposed. In a subsequent reference received from the D. I. B. the lady's name was stated to be Miss Nargis. It seems unlikely that this lady is identical with No. 9, but the point may be cleared up by reference to the C. of P. It may be noted that Mr. Gandhi describes Mrs. Captain as an invalid presumably with the object of suggesting that therefore she is incapable of taking an active part in politics but if she could undertake a pilgrimage to Yeravda, it seems that she is not exactly a helpless cripple.

* He is not at present taking part in politics and is therefore admissible.

5. Of the remainder Nos. 1, 4, 8, 10, 13, 14 and 15 are ladies who, according to our information, have not taken any active part in politics, and as such it seems that there would be no objection to admitting their names without making further enquiries into their antecedents.

6. Nos. 16 and 17 are said to be invalids from the Gujarat Vidyapith; perhaps we need not raise any objection in their case.

7. As regards Nos. 5, 6, 7 and 12 who are from Bombay, C. of P. may be consulted. No. 11 belongs to Rajkot. It is for consideration whether the A. G. G. in the States of Western India, should be consulted.

8. Except in the case of those in respect of whom it is proposed to make further inquiries a reply may be sent at once adding that orders regarding the remainder will be communicated later.

The recommendation contained in paragraph 2 of the Inspector-General of Prisons' letter at p. 241 *ante* may be accepted : the Superintendent of the Prisons is obviously not in a position to decide as to the suitability or otherwise of any further names which Mr. Gandhi may submit.

The existing orders will stand.

R. M. M.

Secretary

See my note. Orders may issue so far as ready. It is not necessary to submit to H. M. (or H. E.) unless we propose to disallow. Nor is it necessary to make very meticulous inquiries about persons proposed by Mr. Gandhi, since if they were taking an active part in politics they would probably be known to us already. In the case of 5, 6, 7 the C. of P. can merely be asked if they are known to the police here as taking part in politics; if they are not known or suspected to be such, he need not make minute inquiries.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
7th May

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 197]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3446
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 9th May 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 334, dated the 23rd April 1932 forwarding

1. Indira Nehru.
2. Jehangir Vakil and
3. his wife.
4. Hemprabha Devi.
5. Raihana Tyebji.
6. Hirawanti Mansukhlal.
7. Ramaben, daughter of
Seth Ranchhodlal Amritlal.
8. Prabhashankar Parekh.
9. Byram Khambatta and
10. his wife Tehmina Khambatta.
11. Manjakeshu Mashruvala.
12. Shushilakumari, sister of
Pyarelal.
13. Shushilakumari, school
14. Dinkar Mehta.
15. Puratan Buch.

for orders a list of names submitted by Mr. Gandhi of persons whom he may wish to see, I am directed to inform you that Government have no objection to the marginally named 15 persons visiting Mr. Gandhi, and to add that orders regarding the remaining four persons, viz., Messrs. Hiralal Shah, Damodardas Kanji and Karamchand Chunilal and Mrs. Nargis Captain, will be communicated to you later.

2. With regard to paragraph 2 of your letter, I am to request that Mr. Gandhi may be informed that Government regret that they are unable to make any alteration in the existing orders according to which all names of non-political personal friends from outside the Ashram have to be submitted to them for approval.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Yours most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 199]

Returned with compliments.

2. No. 5 Hiralal Shah, No. 6 Damodardas Kanji and No. 12 Byram Khambatta and Tehmina Khambatta are known as the admirers of Mr. Gandhi but they have not come to notice for any adverse activities.

3. No. 7 Karamchand Chunilal is a young man with whom Vallabhbhai J. Patel always put up in Bombay. He is also a staunch follower of Gandhi.

4. No. 9 Nargis Captain is the sister of Mrs. Perin Captain and Mrs. Goshap Captain. She is the widow of the late Mr. Dorabji Sorabji Captain, the brother of Mr. M. S. Captain, Solicitor. Mrs. Nargis Captain is a Congress worker like her other sisters.

(Sd.) P. A. KELLY,
Commissioner of Police.

U. O. R. No. 2793/H, dated the 12th May 1932

This is Mr. Gandhi's first list of non-political visitors. Most have been passed already on the basis of the orders already approved. Of the four above referred to, who were put to the C. of P. as Bombay residents and doubtful, Nos. 5 and 6 may be passed as non-political. No. 7 is evidently inserted at Vallabhbhai Patel's suggestion and may be disallowed ; and No. 9 may be disallowed as being a Congress worker and therefore not " non-political ".

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
14th May

H. M.

I agree.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
17th May

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 201]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3650
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 20th May 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. S.D. 3446, dated the 9th instant, I am directed to state that Mr. Gandhi may be informed that Government have

no objection to Messrs. Hiralal Shah and Damodardas Kanji visiting him, but that they regret they are unable to accord similar permission in the case of Mr. Karamchand Chunilal and Mrs. Nargis Captain.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.
19th May

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 223]

CONFIDENTIAL

DO. No. D. 5231/32-Poll.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME DEPARTMENT
Simla, the 18th of June 1932

My dear Clee,

We recently saw an intercepted letter, dated the 6th of June, from Mr. Birla to Pandit Malaviya, from which the following is an extract :

" Gandhiji writes to me about your proposed visit to England that he should not like to express any views on such matters as he is in jail. He, however, says that his opinion in this matter is more or less well known."

The Government of India would be interested to know whether any such letter was sent, with the knowledge of the Government of Bombay, by Mr. Gandhi. It is, of course, possible that the means of communication was not direct and that a visitor conveyed Mr. Gandhi's views on his behalf.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) H. W. EMERSON

C. B. CLEE, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department (Political).

Note.—Treat as very urgent. We do not copy Mr. Gandhi's letters I suppose.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
21st June

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 225]

With reference to Secretary's query in the margin of page 1 *ante* it may be noted that copies of most of Mr. Gandhi's letters, which have been submitted to Government for orders, have been kept. No letter from Mr. Gandhi to Mr. Birla has, however, been referred to *Government, and it is therefore not possible to say whether one was written. The Inspector-General of Prisons may be consulted under order on the point and also as regards the suggestion contained in the last three lines of Mr. Emerson's letter.

C. B. B. CLEE,
22nd May
Secretary

No. S.D. 4406, dated 22nd June 1932

U. O. R. TO INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS

I have asked Major Bhandari if any such letter was written by Mr. Gandhi to Mr. Birla, and he says Mr. Gandhi has on several occasions written to Mr. Birla. On no occasion has he (Major Bhandari) considered the contents objectionable, so the letters in question were passed by him without reference to the office or Government.

He remembers one letter contained a passage similar to the one quoted.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE
22nd June 1932

We must reply to the Government of India that such a letter was passed by the Jail Superintendent.

2. Further orders regarding the censorship of Mr. Gandhi's correspondence seem called for.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
22nd June

H.M.

I am afraid that Major Bhandari's judgment is not to be relied upon. Most of the letters referred to Government have been quite harmless. It would seem that as much cannot be said for all the letters that have not been referred. I think in future all letters should be referred to Government.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
23rd June

H. E. (P. S. G.)

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
23rd June

*In the orders passed by Government in each case the addressee's name is always mentioned, but the correspondence in our file does not contain Mr. Birla's name.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 229]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4542
HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)
Poona, 29th June 1932

Please see your demi-official letter No. D. 5231/32-Poll, dated the 18th instant, in which you enquire whether any letter referring to Pandit Malaviya's proposed visit to England was sent by Mr. Gandhi to Mr. Birla with the knowledge of the Government of Bombay.

I am to say that no such letter was brought to the notice of the Government of Bombay by the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison, but it has been ascertained that Mr. Gandhi has on several occasions written to Mr. Birla, and the Superintendent recollects that one letter contained remarks of the kind referred to in the passage from Mr. Birla's letter to Pandit Malaviya reproduced in your letter. The Superintendent, is under the present orders allowed discretion to pass letters which he considers unobjectionable. I am to state that the existing orders in regard to the censorship of Mr. Gandhi's outward correspondence are now being modified so as to ensure that in future all letters written by Mr. Gandhi are submitted to the Government of Bombay for scrutiny before transmission.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
27th June

The Honourable Mr. H. W. EMERSON,
C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E.,
Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 233]

SECRET

No. S.D. 4594
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 30th June 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In modification of the orders contained in Government letter No. S.D. 310, dated the 16th January 1932, I am directed by the Governor in Council to

state that the following should be substituted for paragraph 3 of that letter relating to the correspondence of State Prisoners M. K. Gandhi and V. J. Patel :

" *Letters*.—Both the prisoners may, as requested by them, be allowed to write letters once a week or oftener with the previous permission of the Superintendent of the Prison. All letters written by Mr. Gandhi should be submitted to Government for scrutiny before transmission, but letters addressed to him as well as all correspondence to and from Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel should be censored by the Superintendent of the Prison. Vernacular correspondence which cannot be translated in the Prison should be sent to the Oriental Translator to Government for translation unless the District Magistrate, Poona, can arrange to have it translated in his office. The Superintendent should take particular care that all objectionable correspondence is withheld, a reference being made to Government in all doubtful cases. Any letters while the Superintendent considers should be seen by the Police should be forwarded by him to the Deputy I. G. of Police, C. I. D., Poona."

I have, etc.,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

SECRET

No. S.D. 4595
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 30th June 1932

Copies forwarded with compliments to—

The Commissioner, N. D.,
The Commissioner, C. D.,
The District Magistrate, Ahmedabad,
The District Magistrate, Poona,
The Inspector-General of Police, Bombay Presidency,
The Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C.I.D.,
The Oriental Translator to Government.

with reference to Government Endorsement No. S.D. 311, dated the 16th January 1932.

By order, etc.,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part J, p. 239]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
9th July 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

Upon inquiring of Major Bhandari why there has been recently irregularity about my post I find that his orders are to send all my outgoing and incoming post to the Government. If this procedure means interminable delay in the despatch of the outgoing post and the delivery to me of the incoming post, I should lose all interest in this, what to me is, healthy mental food. I do not write idly. Nor, so far as I am aware, do I transgress the limits to which I may go in writing to my friends. If the Government intend to continue to let me write the letters I have been writing hitherto, I should like to be sure of regularity about the handing in of my correspondence. The letters to and from the Ashram are regularly written. I attach the greatest importance to this correspondence, including my letters to and from Shrimati Mirabai. I should like to know at the earliest possible moment where I stand in the matter of my post.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), pp. 241-245]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Submitted with the previous papers on the subject—*vide* pp. 281-293 of File 800 (40) put up.

2. In the first place it may be noted that the recent modification in the orders relating to the censorship of Mr. Gandhi's correspondence is that only letters *written by* him are, in every case, to be submitted to Government for orders, whereas letters *addressed to* him are to be censored as before by the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison, a reference being made to Government (instead of the District Magistrate, Poona, as was being done under the previous orders) only in doubtful cases. Therefore there should be no more delay in the delivery to Mr. Gandhi of his *incoming* post than before the issue of the recent orders of Government in modification of the old orders. In the circumstances, this part of Mr. Gandhi's complaint is not justified, and he may be informed what the revised orders are. It is not understood why Major Bhandari, who must have seen Mr. Gandhi's letter, should not have at once explained to him the orders. It is not likely that Major Bhandari himself has misunderstood the orders, as he only refers to Government a few incoming letters in respect of which he has doubts.

3. With regard to the outgoing correspondence it may be observed that Mr. Gandhi's letter to Mr. Birla, which gave cause for the modification of the previous orders, gives the lie to Mr. Gandhi's contention that he has "not" transgressed the limits to which he may go in writing to his friends "

There is, however, no obligation on Government to give Mr. Gandhi reasons for imposing on him fresh restrictions or modifying those already in existence, so long as Government are satisfied that they are necessary or desirable.

4. As regards delay in the disposal of Mr. Gandhi's outward correspondence, this is inevitable especially when the letters are in vernacular and have to be forwarded for translation to the O. T. to Government whose office staff is in Bombay. In this connection it may be pointed out that we have had no less than 81 outgoing letters (including two telegrams) since the revised orders were issued, which works out to an average of about 40 per week. This- large number is, however, due to a batch of 32 letters (including small notes in some cases) which were addressed during *each* of the last two weeks to the inmates of the Sabarmati Ashram and enclosed in one cover addressed to Narayandas Gandhi. Almost 99 % of the letters have been in vernacular and their disposal necessarily involves time and also considerable labour in obtaining translations and in scrutinising them—*vide* in this connection translations put up below of one batch of letters which were received recently and are being submitted separately for orders. Practically all the letters pertain to purely family, domestic or other personal matters of the writer or the addressees and it might perhaps be worthwhile to ask the I. G. of Prisons if he thinks that the orders could be further modified so as to permit of letters of a purely *personal* nature and having no political significance whatsoever being passed without reference to Government. Presumably it could be arranged that the vernacular letters should be translated in the Jail or in the office of the I. G. of Prisons and that all letters should be submitted to the I. G. for orders before despatch.* If this is done and only doubtful letters are referred to Government by the I. G. of Prisons, there would be considerable saving of delay and trouble in obtaining the orders of Government in each and every case.

5. It seems also essential to place a limit on the number of letters received or written by Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel. On the last occasion the orders in respect of Mr. Gandhi's letters were that " the normal allowance should be 15 letters received and written a week". Superintendent was, however, given discretion to allow this number to be exceeded. There seems no reason why the same restrictions should not be imposed on this occasion. If approved, the I. G. of Prisons may be asked u.o. to favour Government with his opinion on the suggestions made above.

Mr. Gandhi may be told through the I. G. of Prisons that outgoing letters are submitted to Government for scrutiny and that letters addressed to him are scrutinised by the Jail Authorities, doubtful examples being referred to Government.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

11th July

* But this is the trouble, the Superintendent apparently cannot be relied upon to do this, although the I. G. of Prisons no doubt could.

H.M.

The progress of Mr. Gandhi's correspondence with Mirabai leaves me completely cold.

If there has been delay, it is doubtless due to office note.

Mr. Gandhi may be told as suggested in Secretary's note and also that the fewer letters he sends the less delay there is likely to be.

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
(Home Member)
16th July
(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

A draft letter to the I. G. of Prisons is put up for approval. Please see however, the further communication received from Mr. Gandhi through the I. G. of Prisons put up below. This will be dealt with after issue of the draft letter put up.

Issue the letters and submit the letter slipped and separately.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
18th July

Secretary

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 245]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4920
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 19th July 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the letter addressed to you by Mr. Gandhi which was received with your letter No. 546, dated the 11th instant, I am directed to request you to inform him that, under the revised orders of Government, all letters written by him are submitted to Government for scrutiny, whereas letters addressed to him are, as before, scrutinised by the Jail Authorities a reference being made to Government only in doubtful cases. Mr. Gandhi may be assured that his letters will be dealt with as expeditiously as possible but that the time taken in disposal will necessarily depend on the number

of letters written as also on whether they are in English or in the vernacular, as in the latter case some inevitable delay will be involved in having them translated.

2. A further communication will be made to you regarding the questions raised by Mr. Gandhi in his letter of the 13th instant which was forwarded with your letter No. 580, dated the 15th instant.

I have, etc.,
(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.
18th July

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 249]

Gandhi's letter to Col. Doyle

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
24th July 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

Since writing to you about my correspondence Major Bhandari has showed me the Government's letter to you on the subject.

I must confess that the letter has come upon me as a shock. It betrays, if I understand it rightly, want of confidence in Indian officials as a class and naturally therefore a disregard of the great languages of the country spoken by the millions of its inhabitants. The consequences of the policy are disastrous for those who have to suffer from it. Those who do not know English and cannot afford to pay for English assistance or who are too proud to avail themselves of it are at once put under a disadvantage. My own case is an instance in point. A friend who has visited my ailing son in the Gorakhpur Central Jail tells me that he is anxiously awaiting my letter. I did write to him. But he had not got the letter at the time the friend wrote. My son knows English but we have never written to each other in English. My wife complains of the absence of my letters. She does not know English. I do not know what happens to her letters to me and mine to her. In my humble opinion the principal languages of India are entitled to as much status at least as English, if not a greater.

It hurts me to think that no Indian officials knowing the respective languages are considered fit or trustworthy enough to decide whether letters I write in Gujarati or Hindi or Urdu do or do not come within the passable limits. I have already in my letter of 22nd instant inquired if I have unwittingly given cause for the extraordinary scrutiny of my letters.

The revised orders of the Government therefore by implication seem to take away the liberty they have given me for letter writing.

Alike therefore for grounds of reason and sentiment, I would invite Government to reconsider their decision and so arrange as to ensure for my correspondence in the vernaculars the same quick despatch they promise for the English, if they whole-heartedly desire that I should continue to write letters as I have done hitherto.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 257]

Gandhi's letter to Col. Doyle

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
13th July 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

You will please excuse me for worrying you again over my troubles. Major Bhandari told me yesterday that in answer to my letter of the 9th instant, he was to inform me that there was no delay either in your office or Major Bhandari's in attending to my correspondence as soon as it was received from the Government. This I knew. My inquiry was exactly about the Government's procedure. I have been permitted to write letters to friends outside and fellow prisoners, including those at Yeravda, whether male or female. I have written to the latter as regularly as to my people at the Ashram. There is no use my writing to the fellow prisoners in this Jail if my letters and theirs are not exchanged quickly. The letters naturally relate to mutual welfare and the welfare of those in whom they and I are interested.

The same thing applies to the Ashram letters.

Some of the letters I receive from others are from my standpoint important. Whether they are regarded by the authorities as important or otherwise, I should not like to lose them.

My experience of past imprisonment is that when the correspondence goes to the Government, it takes time to receive attention. In 1930 in the commencement my letters were sent to the Government and I know that they took nearly six weeks before I could get the first batch given to me and this after repeated requests. Subsequently Major Martin, the then Superintendent, was empowered to deal with the correspondence and naturally there was no delay. Of course I can have nothing to say as to who examines my correspondence. What I am concerned about is:

(1) What are exactly the revised instructions about my correspondence?

(2) How long shall I have to wait before I receive my letters and before what I write is posted

?

(3) Shall I continue to receive back those letters which may be rejected, and as before be given the reasons for rejection ?

(4) Will the letters and parcels withheld from me be treated as my property and cared for and delivered to me whenever I may be discharged ?

I shall thank you to forward this letter to the Government and procure for me an early reply.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 259]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

This is a further letter written by Mr. Gandhi in amplification of his previous letters of the 9th instant, on the subject of the recent revision by Government of their orders relative to the censorship of his correspondence, which was disposed of by Government letter No. S. D. 4920, dated 19th July 1932.

2. In his present letter, Mr. Gandhi raises the following four questions:

" (1) What are exactly the revised instructions about my correspondence ?

(2) How long shall I have to wait before I receive my letters and before what I write is posted ?

(3) Shall I continue to receive back those letters which may be rejected, and as before be given the reasons ?

(4) Will the letters and parcels withheld from me be treated as my property and cared for and delivered to me whenever I may be discharged ? "

Orders have already issued with reference to (1) and the second part of (2). The first part of (2) does not arise as the revision of the previous orders does not affect the procedure which has been followed all along in regard to incoming letters.

As regards (3), obviously there can be no objection to returning to Mr. Gandhi those of his letters which are not passed by Government, but it seems that it would not be desirable or necessary to give him reasons* for the rejection of a letter. It should be sufficient if the passage or passages which make a letter objectionable were pointed out to him.

With regard to (4), apparently the letters, etc., which are withheld from Mr. Gandhi could not be handed over to him on his release, as many of

* Not necessary, Gandhi knows as well as we do what constitutes objectionable matter in his correspondence.

them might be of such an objectionable nature as to make it most undesirable that they should be in his possession even after he is released. It seems, therefore, that Mr. Gandhi may be informed that Government cannot give any such assurance as is implied by his query. In order, however, to ensure that this procedure will be in uniformity with that followed on the last occasion of Mr. Gandhi's interment, perhaps it would be just as well to ascertain from the I. G. of Prisons what was done with the withheld correspondence when Mr. Gandhi was released on the last occasion.

3. If approved therefore, these papers may be referred under order to the I. G. of Prisons with reference to the concluding portion of the last sub-para.above.

Secretary

Refer to I. G. of Prisons.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
21st July 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 275]

No. S.D. 5259
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 9th August 1932

SECRET

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department.

Subject.—Censorship of the correspondence of State Prisoners M. K. Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Patel.

Sir,

With reference to my letter No. S.D. 4646, dated the 1st July 1932, I am directed to state for the information of the Government of India that the Government of Bombay have cancelled the orders contained in their letter to the Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, No. S.D. 4594, dated the 30th June 1932, in accordance with which all letters written by Mr. Gandhi were being submitted to them for scrutiny before transmission.

2. I am to explain that it has been found to be unnecessary to have Mr. Gandhi's correspondence, which is very considerable and largely in the vernacular referred to Government for scrutiny and Government have, therefore, decided to re-introduce the procedure for censorship originally in force,

viz., that laid down in paragraph 3 of the letter to the Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, No. S.D. 310, dated the 16th January 1932,* but with the modification that in doubtful cases a reference should be made to the Government of Bombay instead of the District Magistrate, Poona.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.
9th August

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part 1, p. 277]

Bombay Samachar, dated 4th August 1932

Elsewhere the paper publishes a report in the course of which the subject Mr. Gandhi's correspondence is dealt with and remarks that as a result of the new repressive policy started in the country all the letters which Mr. Gandhi himself writes and those which are addressed to him by others first go to the Government Department (concerned) and then they go to the Translation Department and thereafter they go to the Censoring Officer and after that they are handed over to the Jail Superintendent. The paper further adds that letters take nearly three weeks in passing through this censoring process and that it cannot be understood why Government have adopted this policy of distrust.

How did this get out ?

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
5th August 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 283]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Submitted with reference to Secretary's notes, dated the 5th and 7th instant at pages 1 and 3 *ante*.

2. It is difficult to say how or where the information leaked out, if indeed the newspapers concerned have come into possession of it in this manner. It seems more likely that they have deduced their conclusions from what they have probably learnt from certain individuals to whom Mr. Gandhi wrote about the delay caused by the scrutiny of his correspondence by Government under revised orders. Please see in this connection his letters to his son

* Copy sent to the Government of India with Bombay Government letter No. S. D. 2491, dated the 23rd March 1932.

Devidas, to Narandas Gandhi of the Sabarmati Ashram, and to Miss Slade. Although it is true that Mr. Gandhi has not in those letters, described the censorship procedure in such detail as the newspapers have done, it seems that it would not be impossible for the latter, gives some of the facts, to put two and two together and arrive at their conclusions. It is well-known that all vernacular communications, from whatever source, received in the Secretariat, are in the first instance sent to the O. T. for translation. The newspaper articles in fact contain certain statements which are obviously incorrect, e.g. (1) that Mr. Gandhi's *inward* correspondence is also subjected to scrutiny *in the Secretariat*, (2) that the censorship is to be carried out " more rigidly, possibly, *not by the Superintendent alone* but by higher authorities, the Home Department or the *Inspector-General of Prisons*" and (3) that " some little man must be sitting in the Secretariat or the Yeravda Prison scoring out what he thinks are objectionable portions in Gandhiji's correspondence". These inaccuracies would seem to indicate that the information has not leaked out through anybody in the know, as in that case the position would have been correctly stated.

It should, however, be borne in mind that the correspondence had also been seen by the office staffs of the Inspector-General of Prisons and the O. T. to Government, though, as observed above, it seems unlikely that the information leaked out from an official source.

Secretary

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
10th August

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, pp. 285-287]

CONFIDENTIAL

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME DEPARTMENT

EXPRESS LETTER

From

Home, New Delhi ;

To

Bombay Special, Bombay

No. D. 2038/33-Poll.
New Delhi

Dated the 23rd March 1933

From paragraph 7 of Maxwell's letter No. S.D. 775, dated 23rd of February 1933, it appears that Jamnadas Dwarkadas' letter to Mr. Gandhi asking him

to call off the civil disobedience movement was withheld under the orders of the Local Government on the principle that Mr. Gandhi cannot be allowed to receive letters regarding politics or the civil disobedience movement, to which under the restrictions imposed on his correspondence he would not be allowed to reply on equal terms. It appears probable that other letters written with the same object may also have been withheld.

2. I am to say that correspondence addressed to Mr. Gandhi on subjects other than untouchability is presumably regulated by the original orders contained in your letter No. S.D. 310, dated the 16th January 1932. They provided that all correspondence to and from the prisoners should be censored by the Superintendent of the Prison and that all objectionable correspondence should be withheld. In doubtful cases a reference should be made to the Government of Bombay. Under these orders it would seem that correspondence aimed at asking Mr. Gandhi to abandon civil disobedience would not have been withheld, and it was in fact specifically stated by the Secretary of State in the House of Commons on November 7, 1932, with the approval of the Government of India, that " any letters aiming at influencing him in the direction of abandoning civil disobedience would reach him ".

3. In view of these considerations, the Government of India consider that if the Government of Bombay see no objection, letters such as those of Mr. Jamnadas Dwarkadas should be duly delivered to Mr. Gandhi.

4. The Government of India recognise that it is not possible to allow Mr. Gandhi to issue replies to these letters without the prior approval of the Government of Bombay or the Government of India. As, however, he has strictly observed the terms on which the rules regulating his correspondence and interviews have been relaxed, they do not anticipate that he will raise any objections to this procedure. If the replies are merely acknowledgements, they may be passed on without reference to the Government of India, who would, however, be glad to be informed of any such replies that he may send. If, however, any more detailed reply is given, the Government of India would be glad if it could be referred to them promptly with the views of the Government of Bombay.

(Sd.) M. G. HALLETT,
Secretary to the Government of India

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 289]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 1996
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 30th March 1933

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department.

Sir,

I am to refer to your Express Letter No. D. 2038/33-Poll., dated the 23rd March 1933, on the subject of allowing Mr. Gandhi in future to receive letters on lines similar to that of Mr. Jamnadas Dwarkadas which was withheld by this Government. I am to say that the Government of Bombay were not apparently informed of the statement made by the Secretary of State in the House of Commons, with the approval of the Government of India on the 7th November 1932 and that had they been aware of that statement the letter in question would certainly have been referred to the Government of India before the decision to withhold it was arrived at. Only one other important letter of a similar character has been withheld, viz. that of Mr. Rohit Mehta, which mentioned in paragraph 3 of my weekly letter No. S.D. 1124, dated the 15th March 1933, but is unlikely that Mr. Rohit Mehta's views would have had any appreciable effect on Mr. Gandhi.

2. The Government of Bombay will, of course, carry out the wishes of the Government of India in this matter, now that they are aware of them. In applying, however, to Mr. Gandhi's correspondence the criterion mentioned in paragraph 2 of your letter they have in the past ordinarily regarded as "objectionable" any communication dealing with subjects the discussion of which was not in accord with the circumstances of Mr. Gandhi's confinement as a State prisoner. If, in future, the principle to be followed is that communications to or from Mr. Gandhi, even on forbidden subjects, are to be allowed if 'their contents do not appear to be objectionable in themselves, Government will be in the very difficult position of having to decide how far they agree with each such communication before it is passed for delivery; and the decision arrived at will be equivalent to an expression of the views of Government on the contents.

3. The recent instance of the prisoner Poonamchand illustrates some of the difficulties which are likely to arise. In this case Mr. Gandhi's communication was in itself unexceptionable, but as explained by Mr. Gandhi himself, it definitely connotted a claim to be allowed to intervene whenever a political prisoner comes into conflict with jail discipline. If Mr. Gandhi's telegram is allowed, then it becomes illogical to withhold from him letters or telegrams asking for his intervention in such cases, or to refuse to forward or satisfy his requests for information. If on the other hand the principle is adopted that all communications regarding matters of jail discipline are forbidden, it follows that even a telegram advising another prisoner not to fast must be withheld even although it is, in itself, unobjectionable.

4. The Government of Bombay moreover anticipate that if letters discussing the general policy of the Congress are allowed to reach Mr. Gandhi they must in the ordinary course give rise to demands for interviews on the same subject which, having allowed the original communications, Government will not find it easy to refuse. They observe from the replies given to questions in the Legislative Assembly that it is not the policy of the Government of India to allow interviews of this sort, and they find some difficulty in reconciling the attitude of the Government of India on this matter with the course of action which this Government is asked to pursue in dealing with correspondence on political subjects addressed to Mr. Gandhi and his replies thereto. They have no doubt that in regard to interviews the Government of India have taken into account the probability that the present leaders of the Congress will seek some way of extricating the Congress from its present position without the intervention of Mr. Gandhi, but, they feel sure that this probability would very much be weakened if it become known that Mr. Gandhi was open to discussion on this subject.

5. The Government of Bombay fully appreciate that the Government of India have no intention of enlarging Mr. Gandhi's liberties by means of the present instructions. Since however Mr. Gandhi has always been quick to seize upon and exploit to the fully any advantage of position which his dealings with Government have allowed, they have taken this opportunity of bringing to the notice of the Government of India some of the considerations which seem likely to arise in departing from the practice hitherto observed in regard to Mr. Gandhi's correspondence.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 295]

Extract from a Telegram No. 922, dated the 9th April 1933, from Home, New Delhi to Bombay.

2. We were about to address you with reference to your letter No. S.D. 1996, dated the 30th March. We recognise that there is considerable force in the points you have made. We have inclined to the view that in modification of the orders contained in my previous letter general rule should be that letters addressed to Gandhi asking him to abandon civil disobedience should only be allowed in exceptional circumstances and that in deciding we should have regard not only to terms of letter but to such points as the position of correspondent and possibility of political capital being made out of the correspondence.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 305]

" PARNAKUTI "
Poona, June 27, 1933

Dear Major Martin,

Major Bhandari, as Superintendent of Yeravda Jail, before you, withheld a number of letters, books and other articles addressed to Mr. Gandhi and kept them in his custody to be delivered to Mr. Gandhi when he was released. I take it that you have also withheld some letters, books, etc. addressed to Mr. Gandhi. I would request you, on behalf of Mr. Gandhi, to have all the articles so withheld, delivered to him at your earliest convenience.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) MAHADEO DESAI

Major MARTIN,
Superintendent,
Central Jail, Yeravda.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 307]

Please see Secretary's note in pencil on page 1 *ante*. There do not appear to be any definite instructions in the Jail Manual regarding the disposal of *withheld* articles after a prisoner's release. Rule 912 provides that the Jailor is responsible for the safe custody and due delivery, on release, of all property, not dealt with under Rules 919 and 926, brought by a prisoner into a prison or received there on his account. Rule 919 refers to sale or delivery of property to the prisoner's friends with the former's consent and

Rule 926 refers to forfeiture of property found on a prisoner after being searched on admission. Provision is made in Rule 909 for destruction of " obscene pictures or literature, tobacco, snuff, opium or any other drug or liquor ". Rule 466 provides that letters which a prisoner is not entitled under the rules to receive and are withheld should be delivered to him on release unless they are " improper or objectionable ". This rule is the most relevant, but as the rules in the Jail Manual do not apply to State Prisoners, we need not necessarily be guided by them.

2. There is no provision in the Bombay Regulation regarding the disposal of articles withheld from a State Prisoner during his detention. Mr. Gandhi however raised the point in his letter of the 13th July 1932, in connection with the censorship of his letters, in which he asked, " Will the letters and parcels withheld from me be treated as my property and cared for and delivered to me whenever I may be discharged ? " The Inspector-General of Prisons, who was then consulted unofficially regarding the disposal of the withheld articles on the occasion of the release of Mr. Gandhi in 1931, reported that " Certain letters, pamphlets and magazines which were considered by the Superintendent to be objectionable were destroyed. The remainder were handed over to the State prisoner on his release." Secretary (Mr. Clee) ordered that " The same practice may be followed this time and he (Mr. Gandhi) may be informed accordingly." No official orders were issued as Mr. Clee stated that action as directed in his note had been taken by the I. G. of Prisons.

3. The Government of India however in their recent Express Letter No. D. 2963/33-Poll., dated 15th May 1933, regarding the delivery to Mr. Gandhi of the letter from Bishop McConnell inviting him to the Chicago World Fellowship, which had been withheld, have directed that " this should not be regarded as precedent and other letters withheld need not be delivered ". The I. G. of Prisons was informed accordingly in our letter No. S.D. 2658, dated 17th May 1933 and as a result, none of the withheld articles appear to have been handed over to Mr. Gandhi at the time of his release. In view, however, of the specific request now made by Mr. Mahadev Desai, and the fact that Mr. Gandhi was informed that the procedure of 1931 would be followed, it seems that, before arriving at a decision, we should explain to the Government of India the facts and obtain their orders. The Inspector-General of Prisons, may perhaps see these papers unofficially in the first instance and may be asked to give us a *general* idea of the number and nature of letters and other articles that have been withheld and which of them he proposes to be destroyed and which returned.

4. The following letters and books which were referred to us were not returned to the Inspector-General of Prisons :

(1) A book in Japanese entitled "A New Review of Asia" by the Black Dragon Society which the D. I. B. reported contained objectionable

matter. The book was ordered to be detained under section 26 (1) of the Post Office Act. The book was sent to the Commissioner of Police.

(2) An autographed copy of a book entitled "That Strange Little Brown Man Gandhi " by F. B. Fisher. The book was sent to the Government of India who, on our recommendation, prohibited its entry under section 19 of the Sea Customs Act. The book is with the Government of India.

(3) A complimentary copy of a book entitled " Gandhi *versus* the Empire " by H. T. Muzumdar which was sent to Mr. Gandhi by the Universal Publishing Co. of New York. The Government of India of their own accord prohibited its entry under section 19 of the Sea Customs Act just about the time when the book was received, and it was accordingly withheld and is on our records.

(4) Two letters—one from Mr. Jamnadas Dwarkadas and the other from Mr. Rohit Mehta about the discontinuance of the c. d. o. movement. *The senders were informed that the letters could not be delivered.* They are on our records.

(5) A letter from prisoner Patwardhan regarding conservancy work. Both the prisoner and Mr. Gandhi were informed of its detention.

None of the above books and letters need be returned in any case.

Secretary

Para. 4.—Mr. Gandhi is not entitled to receive the prohibited books (1), (2) and (3). The two letters in item (4) are not on the same footing. Rohit Mehta's was not allowed to be *sent*, so Gandhi cannot claim it as withheld from him. But Jamnadas' letter was withheld after receipt at Yeravda, so he can get it if other withheld correspondence is to be delivered. I think item (5) comes in the same category.

Generally Mr. Gandhi cannot claim delivery of prohibited stuff—e.g. proscribed literature, forfeited books or those held up under postal or Customs Act. It is necessary to see how much of this sort of stuff has been withheld without destruction.

As regards other communications which have been withheld, can general particulars be given ? Perhaps the material has been classified according to reasons for withholding or on some other basis which would help to describe it if we write to the Government of India.

I. G. of Prisons may see under order for such information as he can give on these points.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
30th June

I. G. of Prisons :

U. O. R. No. S. D. 3297, dated 1st July 1933.
(u.o.r. No. 872, dated 3rd July 1933).

Please see the Superintendent's (Yeravda C. Prison) remarks, in his letter attached.
(u.o.r. No. 872, dated 3rd July 1933).

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 313]

CONFIDENTIAL

URGENT

Below unofficial reference No. S.D. 3297, dated 1st July 1933, from Government in the Home Department (Special), Poona.

No. 494 of 1933
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 3rd July 1933

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison

Please see attached unofficial reference and kindly let me have the information Government requires and preceding notes.

Please return.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C/397 of 1933
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 4th July 1933

Returned with compliments.

There is a large shelf, full of withheld articles—I would estimate not less than 200 letters. It is difficult to say on what definite grounds these have been withheld, but on looking through a few, I find references to non-co-operation, requests from America, and other countries, for views on different points, political and otherwise. The pamphlets are very numerous, and on such subjects as " Gandhi's English Tour " in different Indian languages— " Christ and Gandhi " other books and pamphlets of the same nature too innumerable to give details of Newspapers and cuttings from newspapers

giving political news and remarks, etc., etc. I regret I can give no better description as it would take days to classify and study the material here. Practically all of which was withheld when Major Bhandari was Superintendent.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 315]

The general position seems to be that Mr. Gandhi should be allowed to have all except prohibited publications or proscribed literature. There is probably not much of the latter class but the material will have to be examined roughly before delivery.

The difficulty however is that pointed out in paragraph 3 of the office note. I should be rather inclined to think that the Government of India dictum at " A " in that paragraph does not give a considered view but merely intends to safeguard the action then ordered (A). Perhaps however we should refer to the Government of India before taking action as in 1931, though it will be difficult to depart from that precedent (B).

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
4th July

H. M.

I agree in A and B.

The Superintendent may be asked to sort out the material, destroy what is objectionable and keep the remainder ready for delivery to Mr. Gandhi. Orders regarding delivery will be sent later.

(Sd.) R. D. BELL
5th July

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 317]

CONFIDENTIAL

EXPRESS LETTER

No. S.D. 3374, dated 6th July 1933

To

Home, Simla.

The Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, has received a letter from Mr. Mahadev Desai, on behalf of Mr. Gandhi, requesting him to arrange for delivery to Mr. Gandhi of all articles withheld during latter's detention in the

Yeravda Central Prison. These consist of a large number of letters, pamphlets and books (some of which are in different vernaculars), newspapers, etc. These have not yet been scrutinized and no details are readily available.

2. In July 1932, Mr. Gandhi enquired in connection with the censorship of his post, whether the letters and parcels withheld from him would be treated as his property and cared for and delivered to him at the time of his discharge. As, on his release in January 1931, all articles which were considered by the Superintendent of the Jail to be unobjectionable were handed over to Mr. Gandhi, Government of Bombay found no reasons for departing from the procedure on this occasion and Mr. Gandhi was informed that the same procedure would be followed.

3. It is observed that in your Express Letter No. D. 2963/33-Poll., dated 15th May 1933, regarding delivery to Mr. Gandhi of the letter from Bishop McConnell of New York inviting him to World Fellowship, it was directed that " This should not be regarded as precedent and other letters withheld need not be delivered." Government of Bombay presume that this direction does not give a considered view of the Government of India but merely intends to safeguard the action then ordered. Besides, in view of assurance given to Mr. Gandhi, it will be difficult now to depart from the precedent of 1931. The Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, is therefore being asked to sort out the material, destroy what is objectionable and keep the remainder ready for delivery to Mr. Gandhi on receipt of orders from Government. Please state urgently if Government of India approve of action proposed.

Bombay Special.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, p. 319]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3375
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 6th July 1933

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 489, dated the 28th June 1933, regarding the request made by Mr. Mahadev Desai to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, on behalf of Mr. Gandhi, to arrange for the delivery to the latter of all articles withheld during his detention in the Prison, I am to ask that you will direct the Superintendent to sort out the material, destroy what is objectionable and keep the remainder ready for delivery to Mr. Gandhi. Orders regarding delivery will be sent later.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,

Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), Part I, pp. 329-333]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3529

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 19th July 1933

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. S.D. 3375, dated the 6th July 1933, I am directed to state that you may now authorise the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, to arrange to deliver to Mr. Gandhi the *unobjectionable* articles withheld during his detention in the prison.

2. With reference to your endorsement No. 501, dated the 10th instant, I am to state that the articles withheld under the orders of Government should be disposed of as follows :

Description of article	Reference to Government letter ordering detention	Orders of disposal
1. Letter dated 25th March 1932 from ' Hemprabha ' Khadi Pratisthan, Sodpur and its enclosure.	No. S.D. 3040, dated 18th April 1932.	May be delivered.
2. Letter dated 29th August 1932 from the Secretary, All-Bengal Nama-sudra Young Men's Association, Hetiara, Faridpur.	No. S.D. 5839, dated 10th September 1932.	Should be destroyed.
3. Letter dated 6th September 1932 from Mr. H. K. Hales, Calcutta.	No. S.D. 5909, dated 15th September 1932.	May be delivered.
4. Telegram, dated October 1932 from Dr. Syed Mahmud, Allahabad.	No. S.D. 6811, dated 1st November 1932.	May be delivered.
5. Letter dated 16th November 1932 from Mr. Harold K. Hales, Calcutta.	No. S.D. 7192, dated 23rd November 1932.	May be delivered.
6. Letter dated 20th November 1932 from Mr. Harold K. Hales, Calcutta.	No. S.D. 7211, dated 24th November 1932.	May be delivered.
7. Letter dated 8th December 1932 from W. T. Halai, Mouj Ashram and its enclosure.	No. S.D. 7579, dated 14th December 1932.	May be delivered.
8. Letter dated 27th January 1933 from prisoner Appa Patwardhan, Ratnagiri District Prison (herewith returned).	No. S.D. 524, dated 6th February 1933.	May be delivered.
9. Note from the Secretary of the Untouchability League, Nawabshah.	No. S.D. 600, dated 10th February 1933.	Should be destroyed.
10. Letter dated 12th February 1933 from Jamnadas Dwarkadas, Bombay (herewith returned).	No. S.D. 734, dated 21st February 1933.	May be delivered.
11. Telegram dated 8th March 1933 from ' Sarma', Assembly Member, New Delhi.	No. S.D. 1064, dated 11th March 1933.	May be delivered.
12. Letter dated 4th March 1933 from Vasanji Mulji, Bombay.	No. S.D. 1064, dated 11th March 1933.	May be delivered.
13. Letter dated 8th March 1933 from Dhanavati Ranka.	No. S.D. 1153, dated 16th March 1933.	Should be destroyed.
14. Letter dated 10th March 1933 from A. R. Tijaray, Nagpur City.	No. S.D. 1153, dated 16th March 1933.	Should be destroyed.

	Description of article	Reference to Government letter ordering detention	Orders of disposal
15.	Telegram dated 13th March 1933 from the President, Marwari Yuvak Mandal, Yeotmal.	No. S.D. 1210, dated 20th March 1933.	Should be destroyed.
16.	Telegram dated 18th March 1933 from Dhanavati Ranka, Nagpur.	No. S.D. 1235, dated 21st March 1933.	Should be destroyed.
17.	Letter dated 15th March 1933 from Vice-President, All-Bengal Depressed Classes Federation, Calcutta.	No. S.D. 1271, dated 23rd March 1933.	May be delivered.
18.	Letter dated 14th March 1933 from Khandkar Md. Zakaria, Salar.	No. S.D. 1271, dated 23rd March 1933.	May be delivered.
19.	Book entitled " Gandhi <i>versus</i> The Empire " by Haridas T. Muzumdar sent by the Universal PublishingCo. of New York.	No. S.D. 2563, dated 12th May 1933.	Should not be delivered. Retained by Government.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.
5th July

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 33]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 3484 of 1932
THE SASSOON HOSPITALS
Poona, 19th April 1932

From

Major S. R. PRALL, M.D., I.M.S.,
Acting Civil Surgeon, Poona,
and

Major M. G. BHANDARI, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

In accordance with the instructions issued by the Surgeon General, Poona, in his Memorandum No. S. 198-B/Confi., dated the 19th January 1932, we have the honour to report that we conjointly examined Mr. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi—State Prisoner on the 16th April 1932, and found him in good health.

State Prisoner, Vallabhbhai was also examined. We find that he has lost some weight (10 lb) since the time the last Medical Board was held. His old nasal complaint (Deviation of septum) is causing a little trouble for which he is getting appropriate treatment.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servants,

(Sd.) S. R. PRALL, M.D., Major, I.M.S.,
Acting Civil Surgeon, Poona.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

[True Copy]

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40), (1), p. 65]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 734 of 1932

From

Lt-Col. E. E. DOYLE, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE :
Poona, 12th August 1932.

Sir,

I have the honour to attach herewith a copy of letter No. 7129/H dated 11th August 1932, from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison and to

report that after consulting the Home Member I arranged for Dr. J. C. Dalal, D.M.D., to visit Yeravda Central Prison, and to treat State Prisoner, V. J. Patel, who was found to be suffering from an alveolar abscess, due to two carious teeth.

2. I took advantage of Dr. Dalal's visit to get him to examine State Prisoner, M. K. Gandhi with a view to the latter being provided with a suitable set of dentures. The supply having already been agreed to by you and sanctioned by the Home Member.

3. The cost of treatment to State Prisoner, V. J. Patel and the supply of dentures to State Prisoner, M. K. Gandhi will be met from the grant of Rs. 100 per mensem sanctioned by Government to these two prisoners.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 67]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7129/H of 1932

From

Major N. B. MEHTA, I.M.S.,
Medical Officer, Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 11th August 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to report that State Prisoner, Vallabhbhai J. Patel has been suffering from dental trouble for the last five days. The old filling in a cavity in the first upper right premolar has come out giving rise to continuous

pain. The cavity is rather deep and wants immediate dental attention by a specialist as there is now puffiness over the right side of face.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) N. B. MEHTA, Major, I.M.S.,
Medical Officer, Yeravda Central Prison
No. 7129 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
Dated 11th August 1932

Forwarded with compliments for favour of orders.

I have also examined State Prisoner Patel and I agree with Major N. B. Mehta.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison
[True Copy]

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 83]

No. 171 of 21st September 1932

SECRET

From

Bombay Special ;

To

Home, Simla

Clear-the-line—

Gandhi well and cheerful. Sapru and Jaykar saw him this morning with others on behalf of the Bombay Conference. Appeared hopeful as to result of this interview. Malaviya and some other members of the Bombay Conference coming to Poona tonight.

I propose to send the above if H. M. approves.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
21st September

H. M.

Yes.
(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
Issued.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 85]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8858 of 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 22nd September 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith medical report on the health of State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi for 24 hours from 8 a.m. 21st September 1932.

8 a.m. 21st September 1932—He states he feels quite fit. Pulse 62 p.m. Has slept well upto 2 a.m.

11 a.m.—Has been taking water soda off and on.

5 p.m.—Pulse 62 p.m.

7-45 a.m. 22nd September 1932—Says he slept from 8 p.m. to 2-30 a.m. very soundly. Woke up and did some writing till 5 a.m. Slept again from 5 to 6 a.m.

Tongue is moist and clean. Says he feels no discomfort.

Face looks a bit pinched. Has slight congestion of both eyes. Pulse 64 p.m.

Urine Examination—Nothing abnormal detected. Weight will be taken tomorrow.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent Yeravda Central Prison.

(Sd.) N. B. MEHTA,
Major, I.M.S.

No. 856 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 22nd September 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.
Copy forwarded with compliments for information.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

Submitted.

(Sd.) C. B. CLEE
22nd September

H.M.

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
22nd September

H. E. (P. S. G.)

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
23rd September

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 87]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8884 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 23rd September 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith medical report on the health of State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi for 24 hours from 8 a.m. 22nd September 1932.

He slept well from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. but states that he does not feel as fresh as he did yesterday morning. Tongue moist and clean. Pulse 72 per minute.

His weight to-day is 96 lbs. as compared with 101 lbs. on 20th September 1932, the day on which he commenced fast.

Urine examination—Nothing abnormal detected.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.
(Sd.) N. B. MEHTA, Major, I.M.S.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 858 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 23rd September 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona
Copy forwarded with compliments for information.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency

Home Secretary,
(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
23rd September

Home Member,
(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
24th September

H. E. (P. S. G.),
(Sd.) F. O. SYKES
24th September

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 89]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8934 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 24th September 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith medical report on the health of State Prisoner, M. K. Gandhi for the last 24 hours.

The deputation left at 10 p.m. They were not allowed more than half an hour as in our opinion he was looking weak and exhausted. His voice was low and it appeared that he had to make an effort to talk.

He did not go to sleep till 12 midnight. He had a fairly good sleep. He is considerably pulled down.

He had an interview this morning at 11 a.m. with the depressed class leaders. After the interview his pulse went up to 90 p.m. from 70 p.m.

The sensation of nausea is persistent during the day.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.
(Sd.) N. B. MEHTA, Major, I.M.S.
No. 863 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 25th September 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt-Col, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

For Information—

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES
25th September
Home Member,
(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
25th September
H. E. (P. S. G.),
(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
26th September

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (i), p. 91]

TELEGRAM

No. SD. 6181
Dated the 27th September 1932

To

....., Home, Simla.

Since breaking his fast at about 4-15 p.m., yesterday Gandhi is making satisfactory progress and the doctors who have examined him are satisfied with his condition.

Bombay Special.
Copy to—
H. E. (P. S. G.)

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 93]

We carefully examined to-day Mr. M. K. Gandhi and have come to the following unanimous and considered opinion :

2. His vitality is decidedly lower than it was yesterday and is the lowest since he commenced his fast.

3. To-day is his day of silence but we were able to ascertain that he suffered no particular discomfort. The feeling of Nausea which troubled him previously and caused vomiting yesterday appears to be less than before.

4. Blood pressure is—
Systolic 185
Diastolic 110.

5. The disturbing features are that both the Acetone and Urea content in his urine have increased, the latter to 1.5 per cent.

6. We are definitely of opinion that this portends entry into the danger zone.

Poona, 26th September 1932

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

(Sd.) M. D. D. GILDER
(Sd.) PURSHOTTAMDAS T. PATEL
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.
(Sd.) N. B. MEHTA, Major, I.M.S.

I read this to Legislative Council on 26th September.

H. Member,

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON

H. E. (P. S. G.),

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES

27th September

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 97]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8967 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 27th September 1932

Report on the state of health of Mr. M. K. Gandhi

We have examined Mr. M. K. Gandhi to-day and find him progressing satisfactorily.

Blood Pressure—Systolic 175
Diastolic 100.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

(Sd.) N. B. MEHTA, Major, I.M.S.,
Medical Officer, Yeravda Central Prison.
R. I. No. S.D. 8638

30th September 1932
No. 870 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 27th September 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Home Secretary,
(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
27th September

H. M.,
(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
28th September

H. E. (P. S. G.),
(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
29th September

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 99]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8995 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated, 28th September 1932

Report on the state of health of Mr. M. K. Gandhi

His progress continues to be satisfactory. He was weighed this morning and it was 94½ lbs.
His blood pressure is 155 Systolic and 95 Diastolic.

Urine examination shows 1.7 per cent Urea and diacetic acid and acetone present in fair amount—slightly more than on previous day.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

(Sd.) N. B. MEHTA, Major, I.M.S.,
Deputy Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

R. I. No. S.D. 8639
30th September 1932

No. 870 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 28th September 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.
Copy forwarded with compliments for information.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Home Secretary,
(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
28th September

H. Member,
(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
28th September

H. E. (P. S. G.),
(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
29th September

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 101]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 9022 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 29th September 1932

Report on the state of health of Mr. M. K. Gandhi

The progress still continues to be satisfactory. He sleeps well and his voice is almost restored to normal. Pulse is 82 per minute.

Urine examination shows no acetone or diacetic acid but urea content is 1.6 per cent.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

(Sd.) N. B. MEHTA, Major, I.M.S.,
Medical Officer, Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 888 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 29th September 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

For Information—

Home Secretary,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES

30th September

Home Secretary,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

1st October

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON

H. Member,

H. E. (P. S. G.),

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES

1 st October

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 103]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 9082 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 30th September 1932

Report on the state of health of Mr. M. K. Gandhi

He is making satisfactory progress.

Pulse 65 p.m. Full and regular.

He looks quite normal.

Yesterday's urine examination showed traces of albumen. This morning sample is free from it or any other abnormality.

His weight to-day is 100 lbs.

From yesterday he is allowed to sit up in a chair for some-time daily.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

(Sd.) N. B. MEHTA, Major, I.M.S.,
Medical Officer, Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 893 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 30th September 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

Home Secretary,
(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
30th September

H. Member,
(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
30th September

H. E. (P. S. G.),
(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
1st October

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 105]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 9136 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 1st October 1932

Report on the state of health of Mr. M. K. Gandhi

His general condition is satisfactory.

Tongue Cleaner.

He is allowed to walk for a short time in the yard with the aid of a stick. His urine examination shows presence of phosphates.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

(Sd.) N. B. MEHTA, Major, I.M.S.,
Deputy Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 897 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS OFFICE
Poona, 1st October 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

Home Secretary,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES
1st October

H. Member,
(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
2nd October

H. E. (P. S. G.),
(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
2nd October

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 107]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 9185 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 3rd October 1932

Report on the state of health of State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi

His progress is very satisfactory, and in our opinion daily health report is no more necessary.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

(Sd.) N. B. MEHTA, Major, I.M.S.,
Deputy Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 902 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS
BOMBAY PRESIDENCY
Poona, 3rd October 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.
Copy forwarded with compliments for information.

(Sd.)..... ,
Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,
for Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Home Secretary,
(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
3rd October

H. Member,
(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
H. E. (P. S. G.),
(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
5th October

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 125]

What arrangements were made during Mr. Gandhi's last fast to obtain regular medical reports of his condition from day to day and particularly in order to know the stage at which his collapse was likely ? *Order should issue on this point as before, so that we may know when his release is necessary.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
(H. Secretary)
4th December

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

On the occasion of Mr. Gandhi's fast in September last, the then Secretary Mr. Clee, arranged presumably verbally with the I. G. of Prisons for the submission of a daily medical report on the condition of Mr. Gandhi during his fast.

2. As there is now no immediate likelihood of Mr. Gandhi resuming his fast, no orders are necessary on the point for the present.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
(H. Secretary).
8th December

* If the fast is resumed.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), pp. 135-136]

January 6

Dear Mr. MAXWELL,

I was approached three days ago by Mrs. Captain and other ladies on their behalf and on behalf of other friends and relatives of Mr. Gandhi with a view to finding out what could be done to allay the anxiety they felt about Mr. Gandhi's health.

They say one of his arms gives him much trouble but that he won't ask for any help or special treatment. They are anxious that Dr. Phiroze Bharucha, M. D., should examine him and they asked me to arrange to get the permission of Government for the consultation.

I came this morning to represent this matter to you. I had myself heard last month disconcerting news about his health and I wanted to submit that if there be no objection it would probably be a good thing to let people know that Government were always willing to accede to any reasonable request connecting Mr. Gandhi's health. I will look in again in the afternoon.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) R. P. MASANI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 139]

I have explained to Mr. Masani that Mr. Gandhi is receiving every care and attention, that he is reported to be in good health and that he has not asked for any outside medical consultation. Until he does so, requests of this character cannot be considered.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
6th January

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 179]

No. 495 of 1933

CONFIDENTIAL

From

Lt-Col. E. E. Doyle, C.I.S., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Private Secretary to
His Excellency the Governor of Bombay,
Government House, Ganeshkhind.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 3rd July 1933

Sir,

In continuation of this office Confidential letter No. 377, dated 26th April 1933 I have the honour to forward herewith, for information, the health report on State Prisoner Vallabhbbhai Jhaverbhai Patel.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 496 of 1933
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 3rd July 1933

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Copy together with the copy of the health report forwarded with compliments for information in continuation of this office Confidential No. 378, dated 26th April 1933.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Secretary,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES
3rd July

H. Secretary,

(Sd.) R. M. M.
3rd July
(Sd.) H. M.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), P. 181]

No. C. 395 of 1933

CONFIDENTIAL

From

Lt.-Col. R. H. Candy, I. M. S.,
Civil Surgeon, Poona,
and
Lt.-Col. R. V. Martin, I. M. S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 3rd July 1933

Sir,

In accordance with the instructions issued by the Surgeon General with the Government of Bombay, Poona, in his Memorandum No. S. 198-B, dated 19th January 1932, we have the honour to state that we conjointly examined State Prisoner Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel on 3rd July 1933 and found him in good health.

We have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servants,
(Sd.) R. H. CANDY, Lt.-Col. I. M. S.,
Civil Surgeon, Poona.
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Lt.-Col., I. M. S..
Yeravda Central Prison.
[True Copy]
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col. I. M. S..
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 183]

No. POL. 1117
Poona, 24th July 1933

CONFIDENTIAL

From

D. MacLachlan, Esquire, I.C.S.,
District Magistrate, Poona;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to your confidential No. S.D. 118, dated 7th January 1932, I have the honour to report that I visited Mr. Patel this morning and found him well except for nose trouble.

He has no request to make.

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) D. MACLACHLAN,
District Magistrate, Poona.

For Information—

Secretary,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES
24th July

H. Secretary,
(Sd.) R. M. M.
25th July

H. Member,
(Sd.) R. D. BELL
26th July
H. E. (P. S. G.),
(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
27th July

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 185]

CONFIDENTIAL

From

H. F. Knight, Esquire, I.C.S.,
District Magistrate, Nasik;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona, Bombay.

Nasik, 15th August 1933

Sir,

With reference to Government Resolution, Home Department (Political), No. S.D. 3813, dated 4th August 1933, I have the honour to state that I saw Mr. V. J. Patel this morning. He complained of his chronic nose trouble, but stated that otherwise he was well. He made no requests.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
H. F. KNIGHT,
District Magistrate, Nasik.

For Information—

Secretary,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES

16th August

H. Secretary,

(Sd.) R. M. M.

16th August

H. Member,

(Sd.) R. D. BELL

18th August

H. E. (P. S. G.),

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES

20th August

[H. D. (Spt. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 187]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7 of 1933

NASIK ROAD CENTRAL PRISON

Dated 22nd August 1933

From

Lt.-Col. M. S. Irani, I.M.S.,

Civil Surgeon,

and

Major, M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,

Superintendent, Nasik Road Central Prison ;

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

Reference to Government letter No. S.D. 3814, Home Department (Political), dated 4th August 1933, addressed to the Inspector-General of Prisons, paragraph 5, we have the honour to report that we have this day examined State Prisoner Vallabhbhai J. Patel and find that his general health is good. His nasal trouble from which he has been suffering seems to be a trifle better. Since his arrival at Nasik Road Central Prison, although

the trouble gets worse occasionally for short periods. He is being treated for this condition by the Medical Officer of the Prison.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servants,

(Sd.) M. S. IRANI, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Civil Surgeon, Nasik.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Nasik Road Central Prison.

Through :

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 579 of 1933

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 25th August 1933

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Forwarded with compliments.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

For Information—

Secretary,

(Sd.) R. M. M.

25th August

Home Member,

(Sd.) R. D. BELL

28th August

H. E. (P. S. G.),

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES

29th August

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1), p. 231]

CONFIDENTIAL

From

T. T. Kothavala, Esquire, M.A.,
District Magistrate, Nasik ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Bombay, Poona.

9th July 1934

Sir,

With reference to Government Resolution, Home Department No. S.D. 3813, dated the 4th August 1933. I have the honour to state that I saw Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel this morning. He complained that his sleep was disturbed as mucus from one of his nostrils ran into his gullet.

2. Major Bhandari, I.M.S., the Superintendent of the Prison, informed me that the complaint was being attended to.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) T. T. KOTHAVALA,
District Magistrate, Nasik.

For Information—

Secretary,
(Sd.) R. M. M.
10th July

H. Member,
(Sd.) R. D. BELL
11th July

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1)-A, pp. 1-2]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. Confl. 229 of 1933
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 21st March 1933

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter from State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to me regarding Vallabhbhai Patel.

Vallabhbhai Patel is suffering from chronic rhinitis and gets acute exacerbations of the condition off and on. Nothing seems to do him any good.

I don't see any necessity for Dr. Deshmukh to examine him.

I can ask the Civil Surgeon to arrange with the nose specialist attached to Sassoon Hospital to examine Vallabhbhai Patel. The difficulty is about paying the fees of the specialist, who not being a Government servant, demands payment. There is sufficient money to the credit of Vallabhbhai Patel out of the allowance paid to him by Government. If Government has no objection the specialist's fee could be paid from it.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1)-A, p. 2]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 254 of 1933

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd March 1933

Forwarded with compliments to the Secretary to Government, H. D. (Special), for favour of orders.

I agree with the opinion of Major Bhandari that in the first instance the Civil Surgeon may be called in consultation. Further action, if any is required, may then be taken after receipt of his report.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

The proposals made in the last paragraph of Major Bhandari's letter may be sanctioned and a report obtained. If in the light of that report,

Mr. Vallabhbhai Patei asks for a consultation with Dr. Deshmukh the request may be favourably considered.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
23rd March

H. Member,
I agree.

(Sd.) R. D. BELL
24th March

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1)-A, p. 3]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
20th March 1933

Dear Major Bhandari,

I have more than once told you about the condition of Sardar Vallabhbhai's nose. You know also how reluctant he is to talk about it. But we who know it are getting nervous. He suffers terribly whilst the attack lasts. All the remedies that you and Major Mehta suggested have been tried without success. The attacks are becoming more and more frequent and more and more troublesome. The worst attack was witnessed on Saturday last. The discharge from the nose and sneezing continued for more than thirty hours. The eyes were blood-red and the nose naturally so. The whole day long he ate nothing, drinking only tea in the morning and having fruit and milk and boiled vegetable in the evening. He is not able to take his ordinary meals. I do feel that it is time that he was examined by his own specialists. Dr. Deshmukh is his general adviser and I should leave it to Dr. Deshmukh to bring such nose specialist as he likes. Dr. Damani has generally attended to his nose but I understand that he is suffering from small-pox and may not be available.

Will you please send this to the Government for an early decision ?

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1)-A, p. 9*]

No. 20/2367 of 1933

OFFICE OF THE CIVIL SURGEON

22nd April 1933

Subject.—Medical report on patients—Case of State Prisoner Vallabhbhai Patel.

MEMORANDUM

In compliance with your request, dated 20th April 1933, State Prisoner Vallabhbhai Patel was examined by Dr. Mandlik and myself on 21st April 1933 at 5-15 p.m.

State Prisoner Vallabhbhai Patel is suffering from Chronic Rhinitis.

A number of operations have been carried out on the nose during the last ten years. He was seen by Dr. Mandlik on 30th March 1933 and a course of treatment advised. This treatment has been carried out, and decided by local improvement has been effected.

The only further radical treatment which might be suggested is an operation to cure the deflection, of the septum which exists.

This would probably alleviate the symptoms but would not certainly cure him and further local treatment would be necessary.

(Sd.) R. H. CANDY, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Civil Surgeon, Poona.

To

The Superintendent,
Central Prison, Yeravda.

[True Copy]

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1)-A, p. 11]

Submitted with reference to Secretary's pencil note ["I do not think we can refuse to let him consult Dr. Deshmukh." (Sd.) R. M. M., 27th April].

2. It was previously decided that if, after examination by the Civil Surgeon, Poona, and the nose specialist attached to the Sassoon Hospital, Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel persisted in his request for a consultation with Dr. Deshmukh, it should be favourably considered. In view of that decision, the Inspector-General of Prisons may be informed that, after carefully considering the matter, Government are of opinion that they would not be justified in refusing Mr. Patel's request and that Dr. Deshmukh may be allowed to examine the prisoner.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
(H. Secretary).
28th April

H. M.

(Sd.)

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1)-A, p. 13]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 2392
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 29th April 1933

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 376, dated the 26th April 1933, regarding Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel's request for permission to consult Dr. Deshmukh, I am directed to inform you that, after carefully considering the matter, Government are of opinion that they would not be justified in refusing Mr. Patel's request and that Dr. Deshmukh may be allowed to examine the prisoner.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1)-A, p. 17]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. Confl. 373 of 1933
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 11th May 1933

From

Lt.-Col. R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Home Department (Political) No. S.D. 2392, dated the 29th April 1933, forwarded under Head Office No. Confl. 394, dated 1st May 1933, I have the honour to send herewith a copy of a letter received from Dr. Deshmukh of Bombay who" examined State Prisoner Vallabhbhai Patel on 3rd May. I am of the opinion that the nasal condition is a chronic one and there is no urgency in the matter. Actually I have never seen the profuse discharge complained of, which seems to come on at intermittant periods.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 419 of 1933

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 12th May 1933

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Bombay.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information.

I agree with the opinion expressed by the Superintendent and Medical Officer, Yeravda Central Prison.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (1)-A, p. 19]

Tel. : 30321

39, PEDDER ROAD, BOMBAY-6
6th May 1933

To

The Superintendent,
Central Prison, Yeravda.

Dear Sir,

I examined Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel at the Central Jail on 3rd May 1933, in the afternoon. He gave history of intermittant, profuse, watery nasal

discharge which troubled him a great deal. In Bombay last year when his nose was cauterised I was present.

My present opinion is—

(1) X-Ray photographs should be taken of the accessory Sinuses of the nose.

(2) He should be operated upon for deflected nasal Septum, the previous cauterisation having failed to give him relief.

(3) The operation better be performed in Bombay, in a place like the King Edward Hospital, if agreeable to the authorities.

I take the opportunity of thanking the Jail Officers, through you, for their courtesy during my visit.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) G. V. DESHMUKH,

M.D. (London), F.R.C.S. (England).

[True Copy]

(Sd.)..... ,

Personal Assistant to
the Inspector-General of Prisons.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 9]

R. I. No. S.D. 1969A/20-2-32

WILSON COLLEGE, BOMBAY

18th February 1932

Dear Maxwell,

I enclose a letter which I received from Dr. S. K. Datta, a member of the Round Table Conference, who is expected in Bombay on the 23rd February. Would it be possible for him to have an interview with Mr. Gandhi ?

Yours sincerely,

JOHN MACKENZIE

R. M. MAXWELL, Esqr., C.I.E., I.C.S.,

Secretary to Government,

Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, pp. 9 & 11]

11, RUE DES GRANGES
GENEVA, SWITZERLAND ,
28th January 1932

Rev. John Mackenzie,

Unfortunately I have not been able to get away from Europe immediately the conference was over. My intention now is to sail from Venice on February 11, by the *Conte Rosso*, Lloyd Triestine line. There are many things on arrival which I wish to talk to you about.

Is there any possibility of my being permitted to visit Mr. Gandhi at Yeravda Prison. I don't want to see him, politically, as one might say, but my relations with him in London were of a personal nature and I wish to see him as a friend. When in London he asked my wife and myself to look after his house and during the weeks we were there naturally I saw a good deal of him. I want to visit him as a friend. Do you think you could arrange this for me.

With best wishes to you and Mrs. Mackenzie.

I am, ever yours,
(Sd.) S. K. DATTA

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, pp. 13-14]

What do we know about Dr. Datta ?

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
19th February

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

There is very little information in office about Dr. S. K. Datta. He is a labour leader holding moderate views, and he represented Indian Christians at the Round Table Conference.

In June 1925, at a meeting of the Executive Council of the All-India Trade Union Congress held at Nagpur, he, together with men like C. F. Andrews, N. M. Joshi and Chaman Lal was appointed on a sub-committee to draft a detailed scheme regarding the question of labour representation in the legislatures.

Again in April 1926, he was appointed by the Executive Council of the All-India Trade Union Congress to try to bring about a settlement of the dispute which then existed between the President and the Assistant Secretary of the Bengal Provincial Committee of the Trade Union Congress.

On the 9th August 1929, under the auspices of the Bombay Students' Brotherhood, he delivered a lecture on "The students' self-help schemes in Germany". The drift of his speech was that while Indian students were

given equal treatment with Germans in Germany, in England they were made to feel that they still belonged to a subject nation.

Secretary.

Mr. Mackenzie asked me personally about this and I told him that I did not suppose that Government would be prepared to make any exception, but asked him to write about it. Since then, however, H. M. has agreed to a slight modification of the rules as regards visitors, which might cover the case of Dr. Datta in his capacity of a personal friend : provided that the visit was purely a personal one, as he avows.

It is for orders whether permission should be given.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
23rd February

H.M.

No, Gandhi has too many " personal friends ".

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
24th February

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 95]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
19th May 1932

Dear Colonel Doyle,

Major Bhandari told me to-day that he was instructed to prohibit Shrimati Mirabai (Slade) from seeing me, should she desire to do so. As it so happened, she having been discharged from Arthur Road Jail yesterday came to-day to see me. It would have been courteous if she had been previously informed by Government that she would not be allowed to see me. But that is perhaps a small matter. What is of the highest concern for me is that of all the Ashram people Mirabai should be singled out for the prohibition, whereas hitherto she has never been prohibited from seeing me. I have always been under an impression, and have been grateful, that the Government had tacitly recognised not merely the fact of Mirabai being an inmate of the Ashram, but being nearer to me than an Ashram inmate, if such a thing was possible. Her connection with me is infinitely more than political. I may mention that she is under strict instructions not to take an active part in the present political movement and not deliberately to seek imprisonment. Her activity has been confined purely to conducting the constructive Khadi movement and reporting to friend in the West the present political happenings. If these be a disqualification, there is hardly a person whom I should be able to see.

If therefore I cannot see Mirabai I do not know how far I would be justified in availing myself of the permission to receive other visitors. Needless to say that I do not discuss politics with Mirabai or any other visitor, nor have I the slightest desire, even if it was possible for me, to direct the movement from within prison walls. All interviews take place in the presence of the Superintendent. If therefore the Government have any regard for my feelings or Mirabai's, I hope that they will reconsider their decision and permit her to visit me as before.

Will you kindly place this letter before the Government and request an early decision ?

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 103]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Secretary's Note

It is not necessary to obtain further details from the C. of P. The above confirms my recollection of reasons for which Miss Slade was ordered to leave Bombay and apart from intercepted letters which show that she has been actively engaged in the dissemination of vicious propaganda the " appeal to the nation " is enough to place her beyond the pale as a " non-political " inmate of the Ashram entitled as such to interview with Gandhi.

The I. G. of Prison may be asked to inform Mr. Gandhi that the information in the possession of Government shows that Miss Slade, prior to her arrest, was actively engaged in furtherance of the civil disobedience movement and as such she cannot be regarded as coming within the category of " non-political inmates of the Sabarmati Ashram ".

It will be observed that Mr. Gandhi threatens to deny himself all visitors if he does not get his way about Miss Slade. The rules under which he is allowed visitors are, however, exceedingly liberal and if Mr. Gandhi attempts to enlist sympathy in the threatened way he will have a poor case.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
25th May

H.M.

I agree entirely.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
25th May

H. E. (P. S. G.)

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
28th May 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 109]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

9th June 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

Major Bhandari has informed me of the Government's decision about Shrimati Mirabai (Slade). I appreciate the frank reasons given for the decision. I do not know what the Government would call being "actively engaged in the furtherance of the civil disobedience movement". It is likely too that the Government are misinformed. Obviously Mirabai has had no chance of refuting the information given to them. I can only reiterate my statement that like several other companions of mine she has been intentionally, and for the movement itself, kept out of its civil resistance part. But if Mirabai at any time was, or is now, actively engaged in the furtherance of the civil disobedience movement, my wife and my two sons were taking an active part in it. Yet if they were not in prison, being members of my family they would I presume be allowed to see me. As I have made it clear to the Government in previous communications I have long ceased to make any distinction between family members and others. My co-workers are as much members of my family as the member so called.

Unless therefore the Government see their way to revise their decision, I must deny myself the pleasure of having weekly visitors. I enforced the self-denying ordinance on Saturday last. Indeed under the ruling given by the Government in Mirabai's case it would be a serious thing for me to take the responsibility of deciding in the case of Ashram inmates who should and who should not see me.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, pp. 111-112]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Submitted with the previous papers *vide* pp. 99-199 *ante*.

2. It will be seen that Mr. Gandhi once before approached Government with a request that they would reconsider their decision and permit Miss Slade to interview him, but that for the reasons enumerated in the o.n. dated 24th May 1932 and Secretary's (Mr. Maxwell's) note of 25th May 1932, the I. G. of Prisons was asked in Government letter No. S. D. 3946, dated 2nd June 1932, to inform Mr. Gandhi that "the information in the possession of Government shows that Miss Slade, prior to her arrest, was actively engaged in furtherance of the civil disobedience movement, and as such she cannot be regarded as coming within the category of "non-political inmates of the Sabarmati Ashram".

3. In spite of this, Mr. Gandhi now again makes the same request, and after propounding his own "saintly" definition of "family members", which would include almost anybody, claims to see Miss Slade as a member of his family, basing his demand on the presumption that his personal relatives, who have been taking an active part in the civil disobedience movement, would, under the existing rules relative to the classes of visitors allowed him, be permitted to interview him if they were not now in prison.

4. Mr. Gandhi reiterates the threat held out by him in his previous letter, dated 19th May 1932, to deny himself all visitors unless he is allowed to see Miss Slade. In fact, from the last para. of his present letter, it seems that he has already enforced "the self-denying ordinance" once recently. In this connection, attention is invited to para. 3 of Secretary's (Mr. Maxwell's) note dated 25th May 1932 concurred in by H. M. and H. E. Presumably Government will not be disposed to make any change in the orders already passed in this matter.

Secretary

There appear to be no reasons for any reconsideration of the order already passed.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

13th June

H.M.

H. E. (P. S. G.)

I think no action need be taken. It is for Governor to decide who are and who are not engaged in political activities. Miss Slade's particular activity is to poison the minds of her fellow-countrymen.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS

14th June

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES

17th June

H.E. (P. S. G.)

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 115]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE

18th June 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

In continuation of my letter of the 9th instant regarding Shrimati Mirabai (Slade) I now enclose her original letter just received in reply to my enquiry. In my opinion, the precise language of this full letter is conclusive answer to the statement that she was "actively engaged in the furtherance of the civil

disobedience movement". I think that Government should be in possession of this emphatic denial of the information before them in connection with her doings before her incarceration. To save time I have marked the relevant portions of the letter.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, pp. 117-118]

BOMBAY
14th June 1932

Beloved Bapu,

I did not write to you on yesterday's Silence Day this time, as I wanted to be able to give you some definite news about my change of residence.

I went to see Shantabai (Govindlal Shivilal's wife) last night, and she is quite ready to have me. But Damodardas went away to Devlali on Saturday and has not returned yet, so I have not been able to talk with him. But since my further experiences here, then your letter (on Saturday) and then Dahyabhai's report of a message from you all that I should move, I have decided that I shall go to the other place tomorrow afternoon. That will give me time to explain everything to Damodardas, who is due here, tomorrow morning. I have already talked it over with his poor little "Sunti" and she has quite agreed that it is a good and proper plan.

My address will therefore be : C/o Seth Govindlal Shivilal Motilal, 7 Land's End Road, Malabar Hill,; Bombay.

So the left elbow did go into splints ! And now, I hear it is out again. So perhaps the dietetic change has also come about ! I never thought you would so soon try the saltless diet ! I have great hopes of that but of course the milk and fresh fruit must be there. I go happily on. I am keeping quite fit, in spite of the overpowering *damp* heat, which I have always found the most trying.

Verrier has gone to the Ashram with Shamrao and another boy who has joined their Ashram. He has had your letter—he has also read what you said in your letter to me about himself, and he says he is writing to you, so I will not stop to answer your question about him further. Shamrao is quite well again.

Now as to the Government's reply to you regarding my activities ! Fancy me *directing the movement*—I had a good laugh when I heard of my importance. But I must now tell you just what I was doing, as there may have been things which made them suspicious. My time was fully occupied

with the work you had left to me but in the process of compiling my reports, etc., for each week, I naturally mixed freely with my friends, many of whom were taking an active part in the directing of the movement. On one occasion I do remember writing a letter to the then Acting President of the Congress for a friend who did not happen to know him personally. And people would sometimes consult me regarding the application of your principles of Truth and Non-violence. But as for directing the movement, I do not even know the names of the various " War Councils " let alone have contact with them.

Since my release I have again been absorbed in the work you instructed me to do.

So there we are—and, as you say, we may rejoice in His will.

I will certainly take up writing to Radha. I am afraid she is worrying at the moment very much about Damodardas ; she wept profusely when I spoke with her about him the day she left here. I tried to make her see that his only happiness could be in the loss of all chance of speculating.

Where have you got to in the Ashram History ? Are you taking it in much detail ? This history will be a tremendous help to us in future years— for your inner meaning and hopes with regard to the Ashram must all be there. It should stir us to further and further efforts.

Jal is expected back here this afternoon. I must go round this evening to see him. I hear Nargis and Joshi are still in poor health. They will be coming after a few days.

By the way, I asked Damodardas about Radha's expenses, and he says the Ashram is paying.

Love the Vallabhbhai and Mahadev.

Ever your devoted daughter,
MIRA

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 121]

Please see the letter from the I. G. of Prisons in the linked file forwarding a further letter from Mr. Gandhi and a letter from Miss Slade in which she denies having taken any active part in the furtherance of the civil disobedience movement prior to her arrest. In view, however, of the facts already in the possession of Government, perhaps no notice may be taken of Miss Slade's denial.

The attached reply, if approved, may issue to the I. G. of Prisons.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
21st June

Secretary
H. M.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
22nd June

H. E. (P. S. G.)

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
23rd June

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 123]

No. S.D. 4456
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 25th June 1932

CONFIDENTIAL

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the letters addressed to you by Mr. Gandhi which were received with your letters Nos. 470 and 484, dated the 10th and 20th instant respectively. I am directed to inform you that Government do not consider that any action should be taken on them.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.
20th June

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 161]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7291 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE
Dated 15th August 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to state that " B" class prisoner Mahadeo Desai (attendant to M. K. G.) requests to have an interview with Pyarelal and Devdas Gandhi (son of M. K. G.). Orders are solicited whether this may be allowed.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 744 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 16th August 1932

CONFIDENTIAL

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of orders, as Mahadevbhai Desai is a companion in Prison of both M. K. Gandhi and Vallabhbhai J. Patel.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

For orders.

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
Secretary.

16th June

Put up in Poona, I should like to see the I. G. of Prisons regarding this.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
17th August

Pyarelal and Devdas Gandhi are now out of jail. Pyarelal was M. K. Gandhi's Secretary, last time he was in Yeravda.

2. Gandhi is refusing all interviews as he is not allowed to see Miss Slade and this is obviously an attempt to surmount this difficulty. Permission may be refused.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
18th August

H.M.

Yes.

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 165]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5416
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 19th August 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

With reference to your endorsement No. 744, dated the 16th instant, I am directed to inform you that prisoner Mahadev Desai should be refused an interview with Pyarelal and Devdas Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 167]

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEGRAM

Dated the 14th September 1932

From

C. Rajgopalachari,
Care Khadi Vastralaya, Esplanade, Madras ;

To

Mahatma Gandhi,
Yeravda Prison, Poona.

Deeply distressed. Can I see you immediately discuss matters regarding fast. Is the fast or at least the date open re-consideration. In view much delayed publication letters enough time not given parties and communities concerned.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 181]

Poona, September 17, 1932

From

C. Rajgopalachari,
Gandhi Ashram, Tiruchengoda, Madras ;

To

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Secretary to Government of Bombay,
Home Department, Poona.

Dear Sir,

As soon as I learnt about the intended fast of Mahatma Gandhi, I sent a telegram to him C/o The Superintendent, Yeravda, requesting him to give me an opportunity to discuss the matters with him before he launches on the fast.

I telegraphed to the Commerce Member, Government of India, as he happens to know me well to secure for me the permission to see Gandhiji and discuss this matter. I felt and pressed that once he is " released " or the fast begins, the case will be rendered much more difficult of discussion.

I have not yet heard in reply from either parties.

I intend to leave for Bombay tonight and I shall be grateful if you can get the necessary orders in the matter passed to enable me to have an interview

with Mahatmaji today. The talk will, of course, be confined to the question of the fast.

Yours truly,
(Sd.) C. RAJGOPALACHARI

I have replied that the interview cannot be granted.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
17th September

H. M. (Sd.) W. F. HUDSON.
19th September

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 65]

Extract from a letter, dated the 27th August 1932, from Madhobhai, Varad to Kanjibhai Patel, B.E., C/o. Dr. Popatlal, Napier Road, Karachi.

Murarjibhai of Shialda had met Bapuji in Yeravda Jail. He conversed with him for about an hour and a quarter. The Superintendent was absent at that time. The conversation was all about Bardoli. Gandhiji said:

"Khushalbai (Secretary) made a mistake. How did cultivators commit such a blunder. (Bapuji had no idea how money was collected from cultivators.) This time the nose of the Sardar has been cut. It aggrieved me much but there is no other alternative for your people then to collect about 200 cultivators to save the honour of Bardoli. If a village like Ras is organised for action, it will be better. This fight is not collective but individual one. It will be much better if a few cultivators join hands and face Government with open chest. If they will do so, then I will be removed from this place."

There were such talks about Bardoli. You might be aware that Bapuji does not indulge in politics inside the jail but that he broke the principle "oath" and conversed with Murarjibhai. Bapuji would have refused to talk about this matter with any other interviewer. Bapuji must have been very sorry on the behaviour of the cultivators. He is of the opinion that fight will be prolonged.

Copy of a minute by the Hon'ble the Home Member, dated the 6th September 1932.

* * * * *

How did this interview with "Bapu" come about?

Copy of a note by Secretary, H. D., dated 6th September 1932.

Ask Inspector General of Prisons.

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Submitted.

In accordance with Secretary's note of 6th September 1932 (copy at p. 1 *ante*) the foregoing extract may be forwarded u. o. to the Inspector-General of Prisons for favour of report. He may be requested to treat the papers as strictly confidential.

A. S.

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
Inspector-General of Prisons.
8th September

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 189]

No. 8399 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
10th September 1932

(Returned with compliments.)

Murarjibhai of Shialda was a prisoner in the Extension Camp. He had an interview with State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi according to Confl. No. 223, dated 17th March 1932, from the Inspector-General of Prisons, Poona, and letter No. S.D. 2649, dated 31st March 1932 from Home Secretary to Inspector-General of Prisons.

The writer of the letter has told a lie in stating that the Superintendent was absent at the time. No interview has ever taken place except in the presence of the Superintendent. In addition to the Superintendent, the Deputy Superintendent and in his absence the Senior Jailor was always present at these interviews. State Prisoner Gandhi was permitted these interviews on certain condition *vide* Inspector-General of Prisons' Confl. No. 223, dated 17th March 1932, and he has always scrupulously observed them.

I would like to mention in this connection an instance to illustrate my point. Some time ago, when Mr. Gandhi was taking interviews, a young widow of 15 came to see him. Suddenly in the middle of the conversation she asked him whether she should join the present C. D. O. Movement or not. Mr. Gandhi at once told her that if she was going to ask him question about a subject on which he has given an undertaking not to speak, she had better not come to see him again.

In my opinion, the letter under reference is written by some unscrupulous persons who does not mind telling lies with a view to gain his object.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Y. C. P.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 191]

CONFIDENTIAL

Extract from weekly confidential report of the District Magistrate, Surat, dated the 6th September 1932.

* * * * *

Those who have returned from jail after serving their term of imprisonment are trying to agitate agriculturists against payment of Land Revenue. A rumour has been spread by some of them that during an interview with Mr. Gandhi he told one of them that he was disappointed in Bardoli as it paid up its assessment and that the Surat District could not produce a single village like Ras in the Kaira District. An attempt will be made to get together about 200 agriculturists who would take oaths against payment of dues. The situation is being watched.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 199]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5949

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Poona, 17th September 1932

My dear Kothawala,

Please see your weekly confidential report of the 6th instant, in which you refer to a rumour spread in Surat by some persons recently returned from jail that during an interview with one of them Mr. Gandhi said that he was disappointed in Bardoli because it had paid up its land revenue assessment. In this connection, I am to invite your attention to the intercepted letter from Madhobhai, Varad to Kanjibhai Patel, Karachi (a copy of which was sent to you by the Personal Assistant to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C. I. D., Poona, under his secret endorsement No. S.B. 2199, dated the 5th instant) and to forward herewith copies of the report of the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, and the endorsement thereon by the Inspector-General of Prisons, regarding the interview of prisoner Murarjibhai of Shialda with Mr. Gandhi. I am to suggest that you might make use of the Superintendent's report to contradict the rumour to which you refer.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

17th September

T. T. KOTHAWALA, Esquire,
District Magistrate, Surat.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 207]

SECRET

TELEGRAM

No. 165, dated the 17th September 1932

To

Home, Simla.

Clear-the-Line---

Following telegram received from Gandhi for transmission to Private Secretary to H. E. the Viceroy :

" Have just read with considerable pain announcement Government decision remove me on commencement contemplated fast to unknown private residence under certain restrictions stop to avoid unnecessary trouble and unnecessary public expense also unnecessary worry to myself I would ask Government not to disturb me for I will be unable to conform to any conditions as to movement from place to place or otherwise that may be attached to foreshadowed release."

2. In this connection please see also telegram you have received from Mathuradas Vasanji asking for permission for Hindu deputation to visit Gandhi tomorrow Sunday or as soon as possible thereafter. If you agree Bombay Government are ready to permit the deputation to see Gandhi as this would indicate Government's willingness to facilitate negotiations.

3. With reference to your telegram No. 2031 of 15th September we agree to retain Gandhi in Poona area. If however Gandhi persists in refusal to be moved and to obey any restrictions as seems most probable at present we see no other course open than his retention in jail but propose to give full publicity to his refusal to be released.

Bombay Special.

Copy to H. E. (P. S. G.)

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 209]

SECRET

TELEGRAM

Dated the 17th September 1932

From

Home, Simla ;

To

Bombay Special, Poona.

Clear-the-Line—

Telegrams received from—

(1) Kelkar, President, Maha Sabha,

(2) Mathuradas Vassanji representing meeting of Hindus, Bombay,

(3) President of Bombay Branch Depressed Classes Association, asking permission interview Gandhi before fast begins. We are replying to all that decision rests with Bombay Government.

2. Our general view is as Gandhi is being released largely in order that he may have all facilities for interviewing people in connection with depressed class problem there is no objection in principle to similar interviews before release. Our policy is not to handicap him in this respect and it will be said that he could take saner view before fasting begins. At the same time there may be practical difficulties in matter of interviews of which you are best judges. We are quite content to leave matter to your discretion bearing in mind above consideration.

[True Copy]

(Sd.),

Superintendent, H. D. (Spl.)

17th September 1932

Despatched from Simla at 15-15 hrs. on 17th September 1932.

Received in H. D. (Spl.), at 16-45 hrs. on 17th September 1932.

Decoded at 17-30 hours on 17th September 1932.

Copy to :

H.M.

H. E. (P. S. G.)

[H. D. (Spl. Br), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 217]

MATHURADAS VASSANJI,

9, Wallace Street, Fort, Bombay,

Gundowli Road, Andheri, Bombay.

(Residence Telephone 86018)

State Express

Your telegram of yesterday's date to Home Member stop your deputation can interview Gandhi in Yeravda at any time.

Send to the addressed as above.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

18th September

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 219]

SECRET

TELEGRAM

No. 2055, dated the 18th September 1932

From . . Home, Simla.

To .. Bombay Special, Poona.

Repeated to Secretary of State, London.

Clear-the-Line—

Your telegram No. 165, dated 17th September 1932. We assume that there is no prospect of Gandhi modifying his attitude. If this is so very early publicity is important as we do not want Gandhi's attitude to become public as it well may, through visitors without our reply. We therefore desire if you have no objection to make a statement in Assembly tomorrow morning as follows. Please telegraph today whether you agree and if so whether you have any modification to suggest. We will telegraph you tomorrow morning final text of statement with a view to communication to Gandhi.

Statement begins—

" In the statement made in Assembly on September 15 it was announced that Government had decided that as soon as Mr. Gandhi actually begins his fast he should be removed from jail to a suitable place of private residence and that only restriction that would be imposed upon him would be that he should remain there. The intention was that he should in this way be accorded full facilities for discussing problem of depressed classes and for endeavouring to effect an agreement with them. Government while regretting Mr. Gandhi's decision have no wish to force upon him arrangements which are distasteful to him. He will, therefore, in accordance with his request be allowed to remain undisturbed in Yeravda Jail. At the same time Government are most anxious that this change of plan should not affect opportunities for discussion of depressed classes problem which they had contemplated should be available for him. They have therefore decided that unless subsequent developments render any change necessary he should receive in jail all reasonable facilities, private interviews with such persons or deputations as he may wish to see and that there should be no restriction on his correspondence." *Statement ends.*

We contemplate that there should be no restrictions on interviews with individuals or small deputations and no jail officer should be present at such interviews ; similarly there should be no restriction on ' correspondence'. We trust that this can be arranged without detriment to jail discipline.

Reference paragraph No. 2 of your telegram. We presume that in accordance with principle stated in our telegram of the 15th/17th instant, No. 2046, you will have permitted interview with Mathuradas. We think that there is no objection to interviews being allowed freely forthwith.

[True Copy]

Assistant Superintendent, H. D. (Spl.)

18th September 1932

Received .. 18-10 hrs.

Decoded . . 20-35 hrs.

Copies to—

H. E. (P. S. G.)

H. M., H. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 339]

(Copy—Original sent to the P. & S. D., in accordance with its letter C/o. FRM. 1056/105161-B, dated 25th September 1956.)

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

14th November 1932

Dear Major Bhandari,

You know by now the late Dr. Mehta about whom I received so many telegrams when he died recently. I am trying to look after his affairs as far as possible from here. I have now to advise the members of Dr. Mehta's family about the disposal of the estate he has left behind him. He was a diamond merchant and landed proprietor in Rangoon where he had settled many years ago. It is necessary for me to see some or all of those in the enclosed list in connection with his affairs. None of them has ever been engaged in politics, and with the exception of two the rest have businesses in Burma. As you are aware, before the fast I had dropped receiving weekly visits altogether. After the fast I have occasionally had such visits chiefly from my wife and children. But with reference to the enclosed list it might be necessary for me to see those who will come continually from day to day till the matter is settled. I trust that the Government will have no objection to my request being granted as early as possible.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

24th November 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 347]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

24th November 1932

Dear Major Bhandari,

With reference to my letter to you of the 14th instant submitting certain names for approval by Government as visitors in connection with the late Dr. P. J. Mehta's estate, as the widow and the heirs of the estate are anxious for an early settlement of the affairs of the deceased, may I request that the matter may be treated by the Government as urgent ?

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI.

R. I. No. S. D. 9780 of dated 26th November 1932

No. 1090 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 25th November 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of orders in continuation of this office No. 1043, dated 15th November 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 351]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Submitted

It would appear from the Commissioner of Police's report that nothing is known against Manilal R. Mehta and Ratilal Seth politically, and it is for orders whether Mr. Gandhi should be allowed to have interviews with the 13 persons whom he desires to see. Attention is however invited to the point raised in para. 1 of the o. n. dated the 23rd instant.

Secretary

The persons in question apparently come under the category of " non-political personal friends " whom Mr. Gandhi is allowed to see once a week subject to the approval of Government. It will therefore be difficult to

refuse permission, although it is somewhat inconsistent with Mr. Gandhi's position as a prisoner that he should be as free to manage the testamentary affairs of his clients as if he were under no restrictions. However anything which keeps him happily occupied is welcome, and Government are not interested in the affairs of the Mehta family.

The only point remaining for orders is whether Mr. Gandhi should be allowed to see these persons repeatedly and not once a week as the rules provide. I do not see why we should relax the rules when the matter does not concern untouchability. Mr. Gandhi may therefore be allowed to see these persons, but only under the rules relating to ordinary visitors, i.e. once a week.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
26th November

H.M.

I do not think we need bother too much about A. Let him see them whenever he likes—it keeps him employed.

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
27th November

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 379*]

YERAVDA
12th December 1932

Dear Colonel Doyle,

I am growing as you can well understand increasingly anxious in regard to the rumours of Mahatma Gandhi's impending fast. May I seek your good offices to obtain the necessary permission to see him within the next few days as I feel it my imperative duty to try, however vainly, to dissuade him from so tragic and so needless an act of self-immolation.

I should be very grateful if it were possible without unduly exceeding my privileges to obtain a general permission to see Mahatma Gandhi at the discretion of the Superintendent, should occasions arise in the coming weeks when perhaps I may be of some service in preventing the "Unto death" aspect of his wilful—and how unwise ! martyrdom !

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) SAROJINI NAIDU

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 381]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 7573

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 14th December 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 1150 dated the 13th December 1932, I am directed to inform you that the general permission asked for by Mrs. Sarojini Naidu to interview Mr. Gandhi at the discretion of the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, may be granted. Mrs. Naidu's letter addressed to you is herewith returned.

2. A copy of this letter is being sent direct to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,

Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

No. S.D. 7574

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 14th December 1932

Copy, together with a copy of the letter from Mrs. Naidu, forwarded with compliments to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

By order of the Governor in Council,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,

Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 383]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

18th November 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

Knowing that Seth Jamnalal Bajaj was suffering from cough for some time and knowing also that he had ear trouble which was suspected to be tubercular, I had telegraphed to him suggesting that he should be sent for his special adviser Dr. Modi, the Ear and Throat Specialist of Bombay. He telegraphs as follows :

" Received. General condition same. Cough and pus discharge persistent. Have today wired Inspector-General of Prisons requesting to arrange X-Ray examination by Specialist in Bombay or Poona wherever convenient to Government."

This was received on the 15th instant. Since then I have received his usual letter also in which he gives me more information about his illness and his diet. I know what a serious view Dr. Modi takes of the ear trouble. He wants Jamnalalji to take a liberal diet. Jamnalalji is himself used to fruit. He has lost nearly 40 lbs. in weight since his admission. I venture to think therefore that he should be transferred where he can have better climate and prompt expert medical assistance, that he should have frequent access to his special medical advisers, and that meanwhile there should be no restriction as to the choice of food, all extras being paid for by Jamnalalji if the Government so desire. May I request urgent attention to this matter ?

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

No. 1057 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 18th November 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Bombay.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part 1, p. 385]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

22nd November 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

In continuation of my letter regarding Seth Jamnalal Bajaj I have further information from his wife and children which makes me extremely anxious. They have seen Dr. Modi of Sir J. J. Hospital, the specialist who advised Jamnalalji before his incarceration. Dr. Modi is not satisfied with his weight and general condition. Seeing that he has not recently seen the patient naturally his remarks are based upon the reports received by him from laymen. Nevertheless when I add Dr. Modi's remarks to the patient's own state of mind as revealed in his telegram I become nervous.

Perhaps it would not be considered impertinent in this connection if I mention the fact that Jamnalalji looks up to me as to a parent. His children are under my care and discipline. He has himself lived in the Ashram off and on for several months at a time. Naturally therefore even as a prisoner I try to give the members of his family what comfort and guidance I can within the limitation put upon me, and it will be a great relief to me and his family if Jamnalalji could be transferred to this prison and is allowed facilities for such food and special medical advice as his health may require. I would lay stress upon the almost universal medical opinion that Jamnalalji suffers from a disease which may every day assume an acute and even fatal form and that such symptoms arise without sufficient previous warning. I therefore request an early decision by the Government.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

No. 1076

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd November 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Bombay.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information in continuation of this endorsement No. 1057, dated 18th November 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D, (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 387]

CONFIDENTIAL

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Subject.—Prisoner, Jamnalal Bajaj transfer of — from Dhulia Jail.

No. 17606

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 23rd November 1932

Sir,

With reference to Government Order No. 1919/3, dated 21st November 1932, directing the transfer of C class prisoner Jamnalal Bajaj from Dhulia District Prison to Yeravda Central Prison, I have the honour to respectfully request that Government may be pleased to modify the order and direct that the transfer be effected to Arthur Road Prison, and not to Yeravda Central Prison, for the following reasons.

2. There are already at Yeravda Central Prison many intimate friends of State Prisoner Gandhi, whom he insists on seeing according to the facilities already accorded to him by Government. These repeated interviews are most subversive of discipline and tend to make the efficient control of the Prison extremely difficult.

If yet another prisoner is added to the list—one whom Mr. Gandhi will insist on seeing, and whose treatment both medically and dietetically as he has already indicated, he will prescribe—it will make the position of the Jail Superintendent and his staff impossible.

3. Special examination such as X-Ray etc. will be difficult to arrange at Yeravda Central Prison, whereas at Arthur Road Prison, the patient could be sent under escort to one of the large hospitals where also he could be examined by his private doctor, Dr. Modi, and if operative interference is decided on—the operation could be performed much more easily than Poona.

4. I would respectfully urge that as Government have decided to transfer the prisoner, it should be to Arthur Road Prison or anywhere else, but not to Yeravda Central Prison.

5. A very early reply is solicited.

I have, etc.,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 391]

Secretary's Note—

This should be linked to the main case now under submission to H. M.

If Mr. Jamnalal Bajaj is further transferred to Bombay the question of interviews with Gandhi will not arise. If however he is kept at Yeravda, I suggest, that Mr. Gandhi may be allowed to see him once in the presence of the jail authorities, but that further interviews should be refused.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
24th November

H.M.

He should go to Yeravda for the present. The I. G. Prs. can then advise whether it is desirable for him to be examined by Dr. Modi.

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
24th November

Telegraphic orders if they have not already gone.

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON

Draft orders put up for approval.

(Sd.).....,
24th November

Issue telegram and submit this to Secretary.

I think that requests for any further interviews should be referred to Government for orders. These interviews will be regulated in accordance with the ordinary jail rules.

(Sd.) D. O. FLYNN
24th November

The draft is correct. I don't think the ordinary jail rules regulate interviews between two Prisoners in the same prison but anyhow fellow prisoners are not included in the classes of visitors whom Gandhi is allowed to receive weekly. The one interview now allowed is a special concession.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
24th November

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 399]

(Copy—Original sent to the P. & S. D. in accordance with its letter No. FRM/ 1056/105162-B, dated 25th September 1956.)

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

29th November 1932

Dear Sir,

I am grateful to Government for letting me meet Seth Jamnalal Bajaj soon after his admission to this prison. The Government now know the relations that subsist between him and me. Both he and I asked the Superintendent at the interview today whether we could meet each other frequently and he told us that he had permission only for that single interview. If Seth Jamnalal had not been suffering from a bad disease, and without the cause to be just mentioned, I should have been satisfied with an occasional interview like the one I had today. But seeing that he has been specially brought to Yeravda for the sake of his health, it would be putting an undue strain on both of us if we were not allowed to see each other frequently of course subject to restrictions as to conversation. I have no desire to hold any political conversation with him. But I should want to discuss with him problems of untouchability, as he was Chairman of the *Anti-Untouchability Board* appointed by the Congress in 1929 and he had specialised on the question of *temple entry*, having himself been instrumental in opening to the Harijans, his own family temple and in having a number of other temples opened in many parts of India.

His special medical adviser Dr. Modi has advised distraction from brooding over his illness. For him to be interested in the untouchability problem would be itself like a tonic. Indeed he was tempted to discuss the problem today, but it was impossible for me to do so within the limited time allowed for the interview.

Alike therefore for the sake of his health and of the work for which the Government of India have given me facilities I request permission to have frequent interviews with Seth Jamnalal Bajaj subject to the restrictions as aforesaid.

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) M.K. GANDHI

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl, Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 401]

Submitted with reference to H. M.'s minute of the 24th November 1932 and paragraphs 2 and 3 of G. L. No. 1919/3, dated 25th November 1932,

2. The prison medical officers report that there is no necessity at present to consult Dr. Modi about the health of prisoner Jamnalal Bajaj.

3. Mr. Gandhi's request for frequent interviews with this prisoner is for orders. It was decided to allow only one interview.

Secretary

This was not unexpected, and I suppose we shall again be threatened with a fast if Mr. Gandhi does not get his way.

In view of the medical report perhaps it would be best to transfer Mr. Jamnalal to Bombay, where Dr. Modi will be near to him.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
1st December

H. M.

As Mr. Gandhi is so anxious to see him, and as he really is connected with the untouchability movement (which I did not know before) I think he may have an interview every day, if they both wish it. I do not see what harm it can do.

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
2nd December

H. E. (P. S. G.)

I think we might postpone this until the position in regard to Gandhi's fast is clearer and then decide what it is best to do.,

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
3rd December 1932

For information,

R. M. MAXWELL
3rd December

The fast has now begun. If Mr. Gandhi is going to die, that is all the more reason for allowing him any small concessions like this interview with Jamnalal Bajaj cannot do any harm.

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
4th December

Please put up the rules regulating Gandhi's interviews with other prisoners before I resubmit this.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
5th December

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

The rules governing Mr. Gandhi's interviews with other prisoners in the Yeravda Main Jail or Camp Extension are contained in Government Letter No. S.D. 2357, dated the 16th March 1932, as amended by Government letter No. S. D. 2649, dated the 31st March 1932. They are :

(1) Interviews to be permitted with not more than three prisoners at one time, and not oftener than once in two weeks ;

(2) Interviews not to be treated by either side as a means of enquiring into the treatment or conduct of other prisoners in the Jail. The Jail arrangements, discipline and political subjects not to be discussed ;

(3) Interviews to be held in the office of the Superintendent, Y. C. Prison ;

(4) Duration of interviews 20 minutes.

Secretary.

I regret that when I noted, I had forgotten the above rules, which do provide for periodical interviews between Mr. Gandhi and other prisoners. Jamnalal Bajaj could be given the benefit of those rules without further orders : but it will be seen from Mr. Gandhi's letter that he wants to see Jamnalal 'frequently', and is trying to bring in the untouchability motive—although of course the Government of India concessions on this subject only applied to interviews with outsiders—not to other prisoners. However as we may expect another fast if Mr. Gandhi does not get his way on this matter, perhaps the request should first be reported to the Government of India in order to see whether they would support us in refusing interviews except on the lines already approved for other prisoners.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
6th December

H.M.

We made the rules and can modify them as occasion arises.

I still see no reason why Mr. Gandhi should not have a daily interview with Mr. Jamnalal Bajaj if he wishes. It cannot be a quarter as harmful as to daily talks with Mr. Patel.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
7th December

H.E.

H. E. has seen. To be resubmitted for next Tuesday or when I next take work to H. E.

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
13th December

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 407]

Private Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
Bombay, 14th December, 1932

Dear Maxwell,

In connection with the application for an interview for Mr. Jamnalal Bajaj with Mr. Gandhi, I am to let you know that on thinking the matter over His Excellency agrees with the view expressed by H. M. on the file.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) H. R. GOULD

R. M. MAXWELL, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to Government.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 411]

Extract from a confidential demi-official letter, dated the 6th December 1932, from the Inspector-General of Prisons.

I had another hour and a half with old G

He made very tender enquiries in respect of the fate of his letter on the subject of Jamnalal Bajaj. I informed him that I was awaiting H. E.'s final orders. Meanwhile, if Government agree, I would suggest that J. B. be transferred to A. R. P. for special examination and treatment—this I think will solve the difficulty.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 413]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 7639
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 17th December 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 1108, dated the 30th November 1932, forwarding for the orders of Government a letter, dated the 29th November

from Mr. Gandhi in which he asks for permission to see prisoner Jamnalal Bajaj frequently, I am directed to request that you will inform Mr. Gandhi that as a special concession Government have decided to permit him to have daily interviews with prisoner Jamnalal Bajaj if he so wishes.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Yours most obedient servant,

R. M. MAXWELL,

Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

17th November.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part I, p. 417]

(Copy—Original sent to the P. & S. D. in accordance with its letter No. FRM. 1056/105162-B, dated 25th September 1956.)

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

16th December 1932

Dear Sir,

With reference to my letter dated the 30th ult. regarding permission to see Seth Jamnalal Bajaj from time to time, both in respect of his health and untouchability, I shall be grateful for a reply.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL BRANCH)

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 31]

Copy—Original sent to the P. & S. D. in accordance with its letter No. FRM. 1056/105162-B, dated 25th September 1956.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
27th January 1933

Dear Major Bhandari,

With reference to the late Dr. Mehta's estate I need to see the following parties in addition to the thirteen for whom permission has already been given :

- (1) Padmaben, Dr. Mehta's grand-daughter.
- (2) Sjt. Kantilal A. Doshi, the son of the well-known Morbi Shroff and engaged to be married to (1).
- (3) Shrimati Vrajkumar Ratilal Seth, wife of Sjt. Ratilal Seth for whom permission has already been granted.

I hope that an early permission will be received as I have to advise about the marriage of (1) with (2), and it is proposed to be celebrated in February.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 35]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 441
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 30th January 1933

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;
The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 58, dated the 27th January 1933, I am directed to inform you that Mr. Gandhi's request to be permitted to see the three persons mentioned in his letter of the 27th instant to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, may be granted.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 91]

CONFIDENTIAL**TELEGRAM**

No. 717, dated the 16th March 1933

From . . . Home, New Delhi.

To . . . Bombay Special, Bombay.

Notice received of Assembly Question asking whether Jail Superintendent recently refused Aney, Acting President of Congress, permission to interview Gandhi and whether he did so after consulting the Local Government and reasons for refusal. Government of India would be glad to receive urgently report of the facts to enable them to frame answer.

[True Copy]

Asstt. Superintendent,
H. D. (Special).

Received in H. D. (Special) on 17th March 1933 at 11.00 hours. Decoded at 11.15 hours.

Copies to—

H. M.

H. E.

H. E. (P. S. G.)

H. D. (Special)

We have not received any report from the Supdt. Y. C. Prison on the I. G. of Prisons with regard to the reported (in the press) refusal by the former, of Mr. M. S. Aney's request to interview Mr. Gandhi. As stated in para. 5 of the last " Gandhi Weekly letter ", no request of the kind was received by Government, and if Mr. Aney applied direct to the Jail authorities, he would naturally have been refused permission for any interview on poll. Subjects other than untouchability. The attached may issue to I. G. of Prisons by Express telegram* (Confidential), dated 17th March 1933.

Secretary

The I. G. of Prisons is in Bombay *today* and saw me this morning before this reached me. Send it out as an express letter and see if it can be delivered by hand today.† If not, address it to him at Poona.

(Sd.) R. M. M.

17th March.

(Sd.).....,

The Yacht Club, Byculla Club and Taj Mahal Hotel were tried but without success. Express letter accordingly addressed to Poona.

* A telegram is suggested instead of an Express Letter as it is understood that I. G. of Prisons may be in Bombay tomorrow to see Secretary.

† Try Yacht Club. I do not know where he is putting up and shall not see him again today.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 31]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Vide cases of Dr. Ansari and which were referred to Government— pp. 159-169 and pp 443-447 of File No. 800 (40) (2), Part.*

The report of the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, shows that Mr. Aney did apply to him for permission to interview Mr. Gandhi and that permission was refused by him. The Superintendent states that he relied on the orders in G. L. No. S. D. 1560, dated 3rd March 1932, in refusing permission. [" A "] His summary of these orders is however not complete as he overlooks that the third category allows not only visits from non-political personal friends from outside the Ashram approved by Government but adds that " others might be admitted with the previous approval of Government in each case ". The Superintendent might have been well advised not to have taken upon himself to refuse the interview, but should have either referred Mr. Aney to Government or forwarded his application to Government for orders. It is possible that there was no time for reference to Government but the Superintendent does not say so, nor has he forwarded a copy of the application made to him or of the reply sent by him. It appears that Mr. Aney was in Poona from the 10th to the 12th. It also appears from a report in the *Times of India* that in a press interview, in reply to a question whether he had applied for permission to discuss politics, Mr. Aney said that " he had only applied to be allowed to visit Mr. Gandhi".

2. It seems from the Superintendent's report that applications for permission to interview Mr. Gandhi on matters of untouchability are made in writing to Mr. Gandhi. The Superintendent might have stated more clearly what the procedure is, however clear that Mr. Aney did not state in his application that he would confine his interview to untouchability. There also the natural presumption that as President of the Congress, he would discuss—politics if the interview was allowed and we could therefore justify the refusal of permission by the Superintendent.

The attached reply may, if approved, issue. After issue, the attention of the Superintendent may be invited to the orders referred to above and he may be informed that Government consider that he should have referred Mr. Aney's application to them for orders. In any case, in view of the prominence given to the matters in the press, the Superintendent ought to have reported the facts to Government instead of waiting until he was asked for a report.

Secretary

H. M.

H.E. (P. S. G.)

Office have misread the orders referred to at " A ". The admission of others with the previous approval of Government applies only to non-political personal friends who do not happen to be included in the first general list which Government approved in the first instance. As he is not " non-political " Mr. Aney did not fall within this category at all, and if he wanted to see Mr. Gandhi he should have applied to Government. The Superintendent was quite right in refusing and there was no reason for him to save Mr. Aney the trouble of coming to Government.

The telegram as amended may issue.

H. M.

H.E. (P. S. G.)

(Sd.) R. M. M.

21st March

(Sd.) R. D. B.

22nd March

(Sd.) F. H. S.

22nd March 1933

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 117]

15th March 1933

S. Salivati,

Special Correspondent,

The *Daily Herald* of London,

Camp : Bombay.

C/o Thomas Cook & Son,

Bombay No. 1.

The Secretary,

The Home Department,

The Bombay Government, Secretariat, Bombay.

Dear Sir,

In view of Mr. Gandhi's latest statement (copy enclosed) that if necessary permission given he would willingly make a declaration of his policy of the Indian political question. The *Daily Herald*, London cabled me to approach His Excellency the Viceroy for permission to interview Mr. Gandhi on the political question.

On Saturday night I received a reply (copy attached) from the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy directing me to submit my application to your Government.

Mr. Gandhi's statement is interpreted in political circles both in England and in India as a welcome gesture to discuss the fundamentals. My position is different from that of politicians who had been urging on the Government Mr. Gandhi's release. This is a simple request of a pressman for an interview which, if permitted, might lead to better results. .

I shall be much obliged to you if you can at your earliest convenience grant me necessary permission to interview Mr. Gandhi.

If any further information is required, I am prepared to wait on you at your pleasure.

Thanking you in anticipation.

I beg to remain,
Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) S. SALIVATI

[H. D. (Spl. Br), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 121]

Mr. Gandhi's Statement,

(*Times of India* Morning Edition, March 3, page 9, column 3 under Caption " Gandhi waiting for permission"—Associated Press version.)

Mr. Gandhi in an interview today stated that if the necessary permission was given, he would after duly examining the terms of the permission, quite willingly make a declaration of his policy on political question about it at all. Politics was excluded from his thoughts. He was deliberately excluding from his thoughts for two reasons: firstly, that he might not be burdened with its weight when he had in mind another subject to which he had been permitted to devote his attention and secondly, he wanted nothing to escape his lips, even advertently which would be tantamount to a breach of faith with Government.

" Are you not interesting yourself in contemporary political events " asked the interviewer.

Mr. Gandhi : " ' O' Yes but only as a foreigner would. I note them in passing but I bestow little thought on them. Of course if the ban is lifted, I can without any difficulty speak on the question of policy and fundamental principles."

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 123]

Copy of letter—

From the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy.

D. O. No. 1424, G. M.
THE VICEROY'S HOUSE
New Delhi, 9th March 1933

Please refer to your telegram of March 4, in which you asked for His Excellency the Viceroy's permission to interview Mr. Gandhi on certain political questions. I am directed to request you to submit your application direct to the Bombay Government.

(Sd.).....,

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 125]

Please See—

(1) Government Letter No. S.D. 1560, dated 3rd March 1932, regarding interviews with Mr. Gandhi;

(2) Government of India telegram No. 165, dated 14th January 1932, requiring previous reference to the Government of India before a press interview with Mr. Gandhi is allowed ;

(3) Government of India telegram No. 2440, dated 2nd November 1932, regarding the removal of restrictions on interviews bearing chiefly on removal of untouchability and

(4) Statements made by the Hon. the Home Member of the Government of India on Government policy in regard to Mr. Gandhi's participation in the discussion of political questions.

2. Apart from the fact that Mr. Salivati is a press representative, he seeks for an interview on a political matter and, under the rules, the interview cannot be allowed. If Mr. Gandhi is anxious to make a statement, he is at liberty to write to Government as he does in other matters. Mr. Salivati may perhaps be informed that Government regret that they cannot accede to his request. At the same time, as suggested by the Government of India, we may refer him to the statements of Government policy made from time to time as, for instance, that by the Hon'ble the Home Member of the Government of India referred to above on the question of the participation of Mr. Gandhi in the discussion of political matters.

(Secretary)

Secretary.

I don't know why there should be all this fuss about saying " No " to Mr. Salivati, who is a journalist of very minor importance. However as the Government of India wish his attention to be drawn to statements of which he is perfectly well aware, there is no objection to doing so. But we need not express " regret ".

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
18th March

H.M.

(Someone—it may have been Mr. Salivati was admitted to see me last week after sending in his card with a note that he had a letter of introduction from P. S. V. The letter of introduction was similar to that on p. 7 !)

(Sd.) R. D. BELL
20th March

H. E. (P. S. G.)

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
21st March 1933

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 127]

No. S.D. 1889
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 24th March 1933

To

Mr. S. Salivati,
Special Correspondent,
The *Daily Herald* of London,
C/o Thomas Cook & Sons, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to your letter, dated the 15th March 1933, asking for permission to interview Mr. Gandhi in order to ascertain his views on the Indian political question, I am directed to invite your attention to the statements of Government policy made from time to time as, for instance, that by the Hon. the Home Member of the Government of India in reply to a short notice question by Mr. B. Das in the Legislative Assembly on the 7th November 1932, in regard to the restrictions of Mr. Gandhi's participation in the discussion of political questions. I am to state that consistently with this policy Government are unable to accede to your request.

I have, etc.,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.
23rd March.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 129]

CAMP, BOMBAY
26th March 1933

From

S. Salivati,
Special Correspondent,
The *Daily Herald* of London,
C/o Thomas Cook & Sons, Bombay ;

To

The Secretary,
The Home Department,
The Government of Bombay, Bombay.

Sir,

I am very much obliged to you for your letter of the 24th instant inviting my attention to the statement of the Government's policy regarding facilities to interview Mr. Gandhi.

If I read correctly the reply given by the Hon'ble the Home Member of the Government of India to Mr. B. Das on November 7 last, none will be allowed to discuss with Mr. Gandhi, Indian Political questions until the terms mentioned in the letter written by the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy to Moulana Shaukatali are complied with. The Government would willingly permit interviews on non-political subjects like untouchability.

The British United Press, through their allied organisation U. P. A., London, has instructed me to approach your Government for permission to see Mr. Gandhi on an absolutely non-political subject which has nothing to do with India at all.

The Central European situation is rather intriguing. The British United Press thinks that a couple of hundred words from Mr. Gandhi on " what should be done to avoid a new war " will be read with much amusement. The question is purely of academical interest, nothing to do with the Indian political question.

Will your Government be pleased to grant me necessary permission to interview Mr. Gandhi on the above question of human interest and oblige ?

I beg to remain,

Sir,

Yours obediently,

(Sd.) S. SALIVATI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 133]

This idea of exploiting Mr. Gandhi in order to get a newspaper Scoop is extremely objectionable.

The reply may be that the restrictions on press interviews with Mr. Gandhi have been relaxed only in connection with his work for the removal of untouchability, and that interviews on any other subjects are not permitted.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
29th April

H. M.

(Sd.) R. D. BELL
30th March

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 135]

No. S.D. 2003
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 31st March 1933

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

Mr. S. Salivati,
Special Correspondent,
The *Daily Herald* of London,
C/o Thomas Cook & Son, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to your letter, dated the 26th March 1933, I am directed to inform you that the restrictions on press interviews with Mr. Gandhi have been relaxed only in connection with his work for the removal of untouchability and that interviews on any other subjects are not permitted.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

No. S.D. 2003-A

Copy, together with copies of the correspondence cited in the margin,

1. Letter to Mr. S. Salivati, No. S.D. 1889, dated the 24th March 1933, forwarded with compliments

2. Letter from Mr. Salivati dated the 26th March 1933. to : —

The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

The Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

By order of the Governor in Council,
(Sd.).....,
for Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 205]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 2497

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 5th May 1933

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department.

Sir,

With reference to your telegram No. 1133, dated the 4th May 1933, I am directed to state for the information of the Government of India that Mr. M. S. Aney, Acting President of the Indian National Congress, telegraphed to the Government of Bombay today asking for permission to interview Mr. Gandhi "in view of proposed fast". He has been informed in reply that the interview is permitted on condition that it is confined to non-political subjects.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 225]

Extracts from a secret demi-official letter No. S.B. 2156, dated the 14th September 1933, from the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C. I. D., Poona.

In this connection I would invite attention to the conduct of Prof. J. P. Trivedi of the Agricultural College, who has been a constant visitor. Not only that but in times past his house has offered hospitality more than once to Congress agitators from Gujarat; among his visitors has been Kaka Kalelkar, on whose account Trivedi's house was searched by the Police last April at the instance of the Ahmedabad Police for incriminatory documents suspected to be then in Kalelkar's possession. I find it very difficult to reconcile Trivedi's behaviour as consistent, or in accordance, with rule 30 of the Bombay Civil Services Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules. I bring it, therefore, to the notice of Government.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 227]

As Mr. Trivedi is an officer under R. D., this will have to be dealt with in that Department.

2. R. D. has previous papers about Mr. Trivedi's close association with Mr. Gandhi. When the latter was detained as a State Prisoner in the Yeravda Central Prison last year, Mr. Trivedi visited him on the 3rd February 1932 and the Director of Agriculture then raised the point whether it was proper conduct on the part of Mr. Trivedi to visit Mr. Gandhi in Jail. Mr. Trivedi tried to explain away his conduct by saying that his family have had social relations with Mr. Gandhi for several years and that he had called on him for a purely social interview etc. It was however discovered that, four days after this explanation, he had written to the Superintendent of the Prison on behalf of Lady Thackersey and two other gentlemen (whom he did not know personally) with a view to arranging for an interview between them and Mr. Gandhi. His explanation for acting as an intermediary was wholly unsatisfactory. The Director of Agriculture was asked to inform Mr. Trivedi that Government considered that he had acted " With a lack of discretion not becoming a servant of Government at the present time " and that they regarded in particular his conduct in acting as intermediary in regard to the interviews of the two gentlemen four days after submitting his explanation of his own visit to Mr. Gandhi as " very unsatisfactory ".

3. In April 1932 Mr. Gandhi mentioned Mr. Trivedi's name in a list of visitors whom he desired to be allowed to interview. Mr. Gandhi was informed that the Professor had already visited him once and that, while Government did not consider that Government servants should be included

in the list of visitors, they would not object to the Professor, interviewing him again if Mr. Gandhi desired to see him for any particular purpose. H. M., as Chief Secretary, R. D., had agreed to the grant of this permission and stated that he had explained the matters to the Director of Agriculture.

4. On the present occasion, the reports of the D. I. G., C. I. D. show that Mr. Trivedi has been a constant visitor to Mr. Gandhi at Parnakuti since the latter's release on the 23rd August. It cannot be said for certain what the objects of his numerous visits were and it seems desirable that he should be called upon for an explanation. But apart from any explanation that may be forthcoming (and it is not improbable that he will, as on the previous occasion, trot out his "social relations" with Mr. Gandhi as an excuse for his extraordinary behaviour), Mr. Trivedi's conduct as a Government servant would seem to be highly reprehensible and open to serious misconstruction. It is however for R. D. to consider whether he has violated Rule 30 of the Bombay Civil Services Conduct Discipline and Appeal Rules and what action should be taken against him. The papers may be passed on to Secretary.

R.D.

19th September

Secretary,

Please compile a list of the occasions in which Prof. Trivedi visited Mr. Gandhi.

(Sd.) R. M. M.

19th September

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL) :

A list has been compiled as desired by Secretary and is put up below—marked "A".

20th September

Secretary.

The list shows that Prof. Trivedi visited Mr. Gandhi nine times between the 3rd and 14th September. R. D. may be asked to take the matter up with Prof. Trivedi as they did on the last occasion. He was then informed that he had acted with a lack of discretion not becoming a servant of Government. His attention might be drawn (thro' the Director) to the previous strictness and he might be asked to explain the object of his frequent interviews with Mr. Gandhi and to make his position clear in regard to the declared objects and programme of Mr. Gandhi and the Congress.

(Sd.) R. M. M.

21st September

Secretary, R. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 231]

Confidential D. O.
25th September 1933

Dear Burns,

I am to refer to Mr. Bell's confidential demi-official of the 1st April 1932 to Main on the subject of Professor Trivedi's visit to Mr. Gandhi in jail and his connection with the visits of others, and to the foregoing correspondence, including Mr. Trivedi's letter forwarded by Main with his endorsement No. 467/3873 of 19th March 1932.

It appears that since Mr. Gandhi's last release from jail and during his stay at Parnakuti, Professor Trivedi has paid a series of frequent visits to Mr. Gandhi, as shown in the accompanying list. In all he paid nine visits between the 3rd and 14th September this year.

I am to request you to draw Professor Trivedi's attention to the strictures previously passed by Government on his visit to Mr. Gandhi and to ask him to explain the object of his recent frequent interviews, and to make his position clear in regard to the declared objects and programme of Mr. Gandhi and the Congress.

I am,
Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) S. H. COVERNTON

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 233]

CONFIDENTIAL

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE
BOMBAY PRESIDENCY, POONA
D. O. No. 003 of 1933
Poona, 30th September 1933

Dear Covernton,

With reference to the attached reply of Professor Trivedi regarding his visits to Mr. Gandhi. Will you please, before taking action on it, ask me to see you, as I have some remarks to make. I shall be out of Poona at Karjat on Monday, October 2 till the evening and shall be available on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. I shall be out of Poona again on Saturday.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) W. BURNS,
Director of Agriculture.

S. H. COVERNTON, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
Poona.
Accompt. 1

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, p. 235]

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
Poona, dated 29th September 1933

To

The Director of Agriculture, Poona.

Sir,

Referring to your Confidential Memo. No. 001, dated 26th September 1933, I have the honour to state as under :

1. My son who has been on a holiday here, from his studies in Europe, arrived at Poona on 2nd September. We had jointly and separately a few interviews on purely intimate personal social subject. There was no other object for the interviews.

Incidentally we also occasionally attended the evening prayers at the Parnakuti.

2. I have nothing to do with the declared objects and programme of Gandhiji and the Congress.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) J. P. TRIVEDI,
Prof, of Agriculture Engineering, etc.

Through,

The Principal,
College of Agriculture, Poona.

CONFIDENTIAL

Forwarded with compliments.
29th September 1933

(Sd.).....,

Ag. Principal,
Agricultural College, Poona.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 002 of 1933
Poona, 30th September 1933

Forwarded with compliments to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Poona, with reference to his confidential D. O. of 25th instant.

(Sd.) W. BURNS,
Director of Agriculture.

To

S. H. Covernton, Esquire, O.C.S.,
Secretary to Government, R. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (2), Part II, pp. 237-38]

CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Burns saw me this morning. He tells me that the position is as follows : Mr. Trivedi's son was at one time while at College brought under the influence of Mr. Gandhi, and eventually went to live in the Ahmedabad Ashram. (I) gather that he had previously been a student in some College at Ahmedabad, a medical student I think. Mr. Trivedi desiring to get him away from there sent him to undergo medical studies in Germany.

While in Germany he fell in love with his German landlady's daughter and wanted, and still wants to marry her. Mr. Trivedi was strongly opposed to this course, and sought to dissuade him, but with no result. And the boy recently came back to India, but still adhered to his resolution to carry the German girl. As Mr. Gandhi seemed to be the only person likely to be able to influence him, Mr. Trivedi sought to enlist that influence against the Marriage. And accordingly he took the boy to see Mr. Gandhi, who in a number of interviews endeavoured to dissuade the boy from this step, and point out the difficulties and objections involved, apparently without much success. Finally Mr. Gandhi wrote to the young lady pointing out the very serious obstacles, and difficulties and asking her to consider the question very carefully and to give the boy up. Dr. Burns showed me a copy of that letter. Mr. Trivedi says that all the interviews were solely with that object and about this matter, and had no relation to any other.

He also says that on some of the occasions mentioned he did not himself accompany the boy, who went alone : if so perhaps as he went in Mr. Trivedi's car, it was thought that Mr. Trivedi was there.

It will be seen that Mr. Trivedi admits that " we " meaning presumably himself and his son and perhaps other members of his family, took part on various occasions in evening prayers at Parnakuti, which presumably implies (what is any case obvious from the previous papers), that he is socially intimate with Mr. Gandhi and his inner circle. But on the other hand he declares that he has nothing to do with Mr. Gandhi's declared objects and programme or that of the Congress.

I did not discuss with Dr. Burns the previous relations with Kaka Kalelkar in April and I am not sure whether they also may be supposed to be connected with the same private affair, or due to Mr. Trivedi's personal connection with Mr. Gandhi's entourage, which is clearly a close one. That the explanation is genuine I think there is no doubt in view of Mr. Gandhi's letter to the boy's fiancée. Had Mr. Trivedi not been already closely connected with Mr. Gandhi, perhaps need have been fewer interviews, but no doubt several were necessary, as it was a question of overcoming the boy's determination by the exercise of Mr. Gandhi's personal influence.

The fact that these interviews coincided with the period of Mr. G.'s release when political matters were under discussion between Mr. G. and the Congress leaders seems to be explainable as a coincidence, seeing that the boy only arrived in India on September 2, and till Mr. Gandhi's release there was no opportunity for an interview.

The R. D. file may be returned when no longer needed.

(Sd.) S. H. COVERNTON
3rd October 1933

Secretary, H. D.

In view of the explanation given, and of Prof. Trivedi's denial of Gandhi and the Congress, H. D. need not press the matter further.

(Sd.) R. M. M.
3rd October

We must accept this explanation but clearly Mr. Trivedi's loyalty is not to be relied on.

(Sd.) R. D. B.
4th October
H. D. (Special)

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 1*]

CONFIDENTIAL

From

Major R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

No. 31 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 15th January 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, two letters

written by M. K. Gandhi addressed to H. E. Lord Willington and Sir Samuel Hoare.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. V- MARTIN, Major, I.M.S.,

Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

The letters may be forwarded unopened.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL

H.M.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS

17th January

H. E. (P. S. G.)

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES

17th January

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No, 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 3]

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS

Bombay Presidency

Poona, 16th January 1932

My Dear Maxwell,

I sent yesterday to Home Department two letters (have been submitted to H. M.) from Gandhi one to H. E. the Viceroy and the other to the Secretary of State.

Gandhi requests to-day that the letter to Sir Sammuel Hoare may please be sent by Air Mail.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN

R. M. MAXWELL, Esquire, C.I.E., M.A. (Oxon), I.C.S., J.P.,

Secretary to Government, Home Department, Bombay.

H. M., H. E., have approved for forwarding. The letters have gone back to office. If not yet despatched, that to Sir S. Hoare may go by air-mail if it is in time (or in any case if it will arrive sooner).

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL

18th January

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part 1, p. 87]

CONFIDENTIAL

Below letter No. 2104, dated 9th March 1932, from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 207 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 10th March 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of orders.

Correspondence between persons convicted during the present movement with others in another prison is generally undesirable, and I have stopped most letters which have been referred to me, by Superintendent of Prison.

As the State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi is now also starting to write such letters I think a ruling of Government is required, as to whether civil disobedience prisoners should be allowed to write to each other different jails. The attached letter I consider objectionable on account of the first three lines in the English translation.

I am informed that a long letter has been received from Miss Slade for M. K. Gandhi, I have not yet seen it but if it contains unobjectionable matter as regards jails and politics, should he be given the letter ?

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 89]

Translation of accompanying Gujarati letter

Dear Kaka,

How are you ? What food you get ? How many are with you and who are they ? How is Prabhudas ? What food he gets ? Inform me about your weight and that of Prabhudas. Similar questions I have asked Mr. Quinn fearing you might not get hister. What you are reading ? We both are alright here. For the present I take dry dates, lime-juice, green vegetables and almond bread. I am not constipated. If my weight goes down I will take milk again. I intend writing " Bal Gita " and have commenced writing " Elmamsaheb's Siran ". I am studying position of stars and for that I take

assistance of that Gujarati book which is translated from Marathi and also see the maps given in *Weekly Times*. I get up at night and see the positions of stars. This time I hardly send for books. But I get some books from America. I think I will not be able to study Marathi this time. I feel weak and require more sleep. Perhaps after long rest I might regain my strength. How is Narhari ? My blessings to you all.

Yours,

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 97]

Submitted with reference to Secretary's pencil note on p. 1 *ante*.

2. The main point for orders is whether c. d. o. prisoners should be allowed to write to each other from different jails. There are no special rules in the Jail Manual about correspondence between prisoners in different jails. The general rules about correspondence are contained in rules 79-80 and 454-457 and 465-470 of the Jail Manual. It seems clear that it is entirely within the discretion of the Superintendent of the Jail whether letters between prisoners in different jails should be allowed or not. The Inspector-General of Prisons however raises the question on grounds of policy because he seems to think that correspondence between c. d. o. prisoners is undesirable. ("A ") It is for consideration whether an absolute bar should be placed on such correspondence or whether the Inspector-General of Prisons should be informed that, subject to the usual restrictions, Government see no objection to letters which are obviously unobjectionable and do not contain any references to politics or jail matters being allowed to go on.

3. As regards the letters from Mr. Gandhi—one to the Superintendent of the Visapur Jail, and the other to convict Kalelkar, there would seem to be no objection to the Superintendent sending on the former letter to Mr. Quinn with a note that the letter has been withheld (*vide* Rule 465).

4. There is perhaps no objection to letters from Miss Slade being delivered to Mr. Gandhi provided they do not contain anything objectionable and do not refer to politics or jail matters.

Secretary,

On the general question I think that the orders suggested at "A " would be suitable.

As regards Mr. Gandhi's enclosed letters, the course suggested in paragraph 3 may be adopted, most of his letter to Kalelkar is quite unobjectionable, but the question at the beginning of the letter can hardly be allowed. In the alternative the letter might be allowed to be delivered but the prisoner

might be informed that his reply can only be transmitted to Mr. Gandhi if it omits reference to the questions about other prisoners and the food supplied.

The question of Miss Slade's letter would be covered by the orders at " A ".

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
15th March

H.M.

I do not think that prisoners should be allowed to write to each other at all. Mr. Gandhi is in a different position and an exception may be allowed in his case. I don't see any harm in the questions at the beginning of his Letter.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
15th March

H.E.

I think the normal jail rules as regards convicts should be adhered to. I agree however that Mr. Gandhi is in a different position.

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
16th March 1932

H.M.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
17th March

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 101]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 2475
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 22nd March 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 207, dated the 10th March 1932, in which you ask for a ruling whether civil disobedience prisoners should be allowed to write to one another from different jails, I am directed to inform you that the normal jail rules in this respect as regards convicts should be adhered to. Mr. Gandhi however, being a State Prisoner, is in a different position and should be allowed to receive letters from other prisoners and to write to them subject to the conditions prescribed in paragraph 3 of Government letter No. S.D. 310, dated 16th January 1932, with respect to correspondence with outsiders, but the Superintendent shall have the discretion to

withhold any letters which, on account of references to political or jail matters or for other reasons, are considered by him to be objectionable. Miss Slade's letters to Mr. Gandhi should be dealt with on these lines. Government see no objection to the letter addressed by Mr. Gandhi to the Superintendent of the Visapur Jail with the letter to convict Kalelkar attached to it being allowed to go on. The cover containing these two letters is herewith returned.

I have, etc.,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.
22nd March

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 105]

SECRET

No. 10/Pubs/30
INTELLIGENCE BUREAU (HOME DEPARTMENT)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
New Delhi, dated 24th March 1932

My Dear Khan Bahadur,

Please refer to your confidential d. o. letter No. 600/F, dated 29th January 1932, regarding the two parcels of Japanese books addressed to Mr. Gandhi and the President, Indian National Congress.

2. Both the books are entitled " A New Review of Asia ", by the Black Dragon Society, and a review shows that their tone is anti-European and objectionable.

3. The Society, about which I can find no reference either in the Directory for China and Japan or the China Year Book, is clearly in favour of, and in sympathy with the revolt against the present rule in India.

4. As it is most undesirable that literature of this type, which is likely to stimulate anti-Government activities in India, should fall into the hands of individuals who may translate objectionable portions for consumption of readers of the nationalist press, I would suggest that both the volumes be withheld. I assume that there is no difficulty about this course since the addresses are in jail, but of course your local Government should be consulted if such a stop is contrary to any instructions they may have issued regarding the withholding or correspondence addressed to Mr. Gandhi.

5. The two books are being returned to you under a separate registered cover.

Your sincerely,
(Sd.) J. F. COWGILL
23rd March

Khan Bahadur K. J. PETIGARA, O.B.E., I.S.O.,
Deputy Commissioner of Police, S. B.,
Bombay.

No. 1827/F/2127
Bombay, 30th March 1932

Copy forwarded with compliments to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), Bombay, for favour of orders.

In my opinion there is no objection to the withholding of both the volumes.

(Sd.) K. J. PETIGARA,
Deputy Commissioner of Police,
Special Branch, Bombay.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 109]

Copy
No. 600/F

HEAD POLICE OFFICE
Bombay, 29th January 1932

My Dear Cowgill,

I send herewith two parcels of Japanese Books addressed to Gandhi and the President, Indian National Congress.

These books were sent to me by the Postal Authorities for perusal before delivery but I am sending them on to you as I know of nobody in Bombay, knowing Japanese, who could assist me in the matter. Perhaps you can have these books examined through the General Staff.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) K. J. PETIGARA

J. F. COWGILL, Esqr.,
P. A. to the Director, Home Department,
Government of India, New Delhi.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. III]

Submitted.

2. The Deputy Commissioner of Police has forwarded for the orders of Government the accompanying two copies of a Japanese book which were received through the post addressed to Mr. M. K. Gandhi and the President, Indian National Congress.

3. It will be seen from paragraphs 2-4 of the letter from the P. A. to D. I. B., who was consulted by the Deputy Commissioner of Police, that the book is of an objectionable nature and it does not seem desirable that the two volumes should be delivered to the addressees.

4. As has been observed, however, in paragraph I above, the books in question were received through the post and were sent by the postal authorities to the Deputy Commissioner of Police for perusal before delivery. The simplest course would be therefore to take action under section 26 (1) of the Indian Post Office Act, as this would cover both the volumes. An alternative course, in so far as the volume intended for Mr. Gandhi is concerned, would be to let it go on the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison and ask him to withhold it as objectionable matter in accordance with the instructions already issued to him in the matter of censoring Mr. Gandhi's correspondence. This course, however, cannot be adopted in the case of the other volume as it is addressed to the " President, Indian National Congress ", which office now appears to be held by Mrs. Naidu as a recently noticed circular issued by the Indian National Congress was signed by her as Acting President, and she is not in jail.

5. If approved therefore the accompanying draft letter' may issue to the Commissioner of Police, directing the interception and detention of the two parcels of books.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL

2nd April

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 113]

SECRET

No. S.D. 2725

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 4th April 1932

To

The Commissioner of Police,
Bombay.

Subject.—Interception and detention of two parcels addressed to Mr. M. K. Gandhi and the President, Indian National Congress, containing copies of Japanese book entitled " A New Review of Asia ".

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 1827/F/2127, dated the 30th March 1932, I am directed to inform you that, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 26 (1) of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898 (VI of 1898), the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that the two registered parcels addressed to Mr. M. K. Gandhi and the President, Indian National Congress, each containing a copy of a Japanese book entitled " A New Review of Asia" by the Black Dragon Society, shall be intercepted and detained.

2. The two parcels of books received with your letter are herewith returned.

I have, etc.,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,

Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

2nd April

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 127]

TELEGRAM

Ordinary

11th April 1932

Name—Kamla Nehru.

Address—Anand Bhuvan, Allahabad.

Distressed learn mother sustained injury at public meeting and Ranjit laid up fever. Hope nothing serious. Please wire full particulars.

BAPU

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 129]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S. D. 2960

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 13th April 1932

From

R. M. MAXWELL, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

In returning herewith the telegram from Mr. M. K. Gandhi forwarded with your letter No. 296, dated the 11th instant, I am directed to inform you that it may be despatched to the addressee.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 135]

KHADI PRATISHTHAN, SODPUR
25th March 1932

Translation of letter marked B

Bapuji,

Your letter received. I am sending along with this the document prepared by a pleader. Signing it please return.

All the papers in connection with what I had told you in Bombay regarding the transfer of the property belonging to Khadi Pratishthan to Charkha Sangh have been ready. They have been sent to Shankarlalji. I am also sending a copy thereof to you for perusal. All these papers have been prepared through Abhiya.

I meet him every Monday morning. The time is fixed for half an hour. One pound of milk continues to be received. Prisoner in Division One is allowed, according to his desire, to receive milk from outside. I have shown your letter to him. He said that he would make effort to increase his weight. His health is at present good. No one stays with him specially. He stays alone in the special ward. He himself makes his own arrangement for food. The Superintendent has thrown on him the responsibility for getting the work of cotton spinning etc. done by 4-5 hundred volunteers who are in the jail. Besides the work of the cowshed is there. Since the work of the cowshed came to him it has much improved. It was not so before. He is preparing a translation of the Uttar Kand of the Ramayan. He will write

an introduction. It will take one month more to finish. After this he has said he will prepare a Bengali version of the Teachings of Christ. Besides he would collect and arrange the Teachings of Buddha. I shall have them printed.

I am glad to hear that Mahadeobhai has come to you. Please write if you are applying any medicine to your right hand.

The paper of the letter I sent was not Swadeshi. It is made in Norway. Ordinarily I am using paper manufactured at the Titaghar Mill here.

In the evening prayers I am alternately reading Tulsi Ramayan and Gita. I am expounding according to my lights. I am very much afraid in teaching in this manner. I do not know whether I am entitled to do so. I feel that how much I myself know that I should teach others. Bapu, how astonishing are the doings of God that when I am anxious and surprised that while the burden of (becoming) a *guru* is thrown on an insignificant ignorant individual like me. He should remain out of sight and watch the show.

If I do not speak to the male and female children of the Ashram on religious and spiritual matters they will miss the ideal and the sweetness of the Ashram will disappear. For this reason I have been reading Gita and Ramayan in company with others. But I have no confidence in me. I attach no value to myself thinking myself to be suitable for this work.

Please accept my salutations.

Yours,
(Sd.) HEMPRABHA

P.S.

I shall send later the documents re. Khadi Pratishthan.

(Sd.) HEMPRABHA

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 137]

This Indenture is made the day of . . . 1932 between Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi at present of a Yeravda Jail (hereinafter called the 'Assignor' of the one part and Khadi Pratishthan of Sodpur in the District of 24 Parganas in Bengal hereinafter called the Assignees of the other part whereas the said Assignor is the Author and Proprietor of the Copyright in the following books and articles described in the Schedule hereunder *and whereas* with a view to give publicity of the said books and articles mentioned above the Assignor has agreed to assign the same to the Assignee only to the extent of publishing those books and articles in book forms and or pamphlets after having the same translated in Bengalee *Now This Indenture*

Witnesseth that in pursuance of the said recited agreement and for no pecuniary consideration the Assignor as Owner of the said books articles and writings hereby assigns unto the Assignee all the Copyright and other rights to translate same into Bengalee and publish same in book form or in any other form as will be convenient to the Assignee and after publication to sell them in India or elsewhere and all right title and interest in and to the said Bengalee Translations of the said books, articles and writings including all rights of publication or performance whatsoever. And the said Assignor warrants that the said books, articles and writings are the original work of the said Assignor the Author thereof. In witness whereof the parties have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year above written.

THE SCHEDULE

1. Experiment with Truth or Autobiography (Gujarati).
2. Anasaki Yoga (Gujarati).
3. Satyagraha in South Africa (Gujarati).
4. Brata Vichar (Gujarati).
5. My Jail Experience of Yeravda (Gujarati).
6. Guide to Health (Gujarati).
7. Hind Swarajya (Gujarati).
8. All writings published in Young India (English).
9. All writings published in Hindi Nabajiban (Hindi).
10. All writings published in Gujarati Nabajiban (Gujarati).
11. Speeches in Round Table Conference, London (English).
12. Geeta Bodh (Gujarati).
13. Speeches in Ceylon (English).
14. My Jail Experiences of South Africa (Gujarati).
15. All speeches delivered in English, Gujarati, Hindi or Urdu up-to-date.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered by
M. K. Gandhi in the presence of

Signed and Sealed by
Khadi Pratishthan by its
Secretary Hemprabha Devi
in the presence of

Witnesses—

(1).....,
.....
(2).....,
.....

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 141]

Translation of letter marked A

KHADI PRATISHTHAN, SODPUR

1st April 1932

Bapu,

Your letter is received. I have realised my mistake. Pain at my inability to act according to the Gita, and unfitness to follow Lord's words is the cause of my weakness. If I were able now to make a self-examination my mind would not have been unsteady. My previous letter has acquainted you with my ignorance. My powers are very limited and my knowledge is almost nil. But my only desire is this how I can know satya (truth). I have been thinking over how to realise its close and complete form ; nay it is my desire ! Bapu, this fact is not in the least untrue. You will trust me and guide me. After repeated tests I have seen that except thinking of God nothing in the world has satisfied me. Throughout the day from morning till evening in whatever I am doing if there is no idea of God I derive no happiness in that work. If there is less of this idea in my mind then I am pained. I wish that all my actions may take the form of service of God before me and my (individual) existence may disappear. However, when perplexity of work, and action and reaction coming from all the four sides confound me then it becomes difficult for me to remain steady. I am pained on this account.

Today the state of my mind is not such as it had become after the death of Tarini. At that time, believe me, the mercy of God was continuously pouring on me. At this time I do not receive His sympathies. I have been making efforts. I keep awake always. Further (I wish for) God's mercy and your blessings.

Charu is not keeping well. He has been sent out for change.

I am today sending the letter (you have) sent to Shankarlalji regarding the financial position of the Khadi Pratishthan.

Nearly 20-25 days ago Acharya Rai had sent you a long letter. He wishes to know if you have received it or not.

My salutations.

(Sd.) HEMPRABHA

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 157]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Submitted

The Inspector-General of Prisons have forwarded for orders two letters (with enclosures) addressed to Mr. Gandhi by one Hemprabha Devi, Secretary of the Khadi Pratishthan of Sodpur, Bengal.

2. From the translations furnished by the O. T., the letters themselves appear to be unobjectionable. The accompaniment to the first letter dated 25th March 1932 (marked 'B'), however, is a legal document in which Mr. Gandhi is to assign to the Khadi Pratishthan of Sodpur the copyright to translate into Bengali, publish and sell certain of his writings and speeches. The document has been sent to Mr. Gandhi for his signature thereon. In this connection attention is invited to the papers at pp. 1-15 of File 750 (5)-B, and especially to the minute of H. M. Sir Ernest Hotson (at p. 7 of the file) who then considered that Mr. Gandhi should not be allowed to "conduct his affairs from Yeravda just as though he were at home". The question there, however, was an interview to discuss business matters, but, as a State Prisoner, Government would not probably object to his conducting any legitimate affairs by correspondence. It may, however, be noted that of the items appearing in the Schedule to the indenture, No. 7 is "Hind Swarajya", which is an objectionable publication proscribed under the Press Act of 1910 please see Government Notification in the Judicial Department No. 1538, dated 17th March 1910 and the proceedings underlying it, at pp. 119-167 of Vol. 46/1910, put up.

No. 14, "My Jail Experiences of South Africa" is probably a combination of the three books referred to in para. 1 of the O. T.'s letter at p. 133 of Vol. 46/1910 and is probably not objectionable.

Item No. 8 is "All writings published in the *Young India*". This would seem to include the four objectionable articles (i) 'Disaffection a Virtue' (15th June 1921), (ii) 'Tampering with Loyalty' (29th September 1921), (iii) 'A Puzzle and its Solution' (15th December 1921) and (iv) 'Shaking the Manes' (23rd February 1922), in respect of which Mr. Gandhi was prosecuted and convicted in 1922. *Vide* p. 271 *et. seq.* of File 355 (35)-A, put up.

In the circumstances it seems desirable that the document and the letter accompanying it should be withheld.

May be withheld—

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL

3. The accompaniment to the second letter, dated 1st April 1932 (marked 'A'), is a copy of another indenture regarding the transfer of the property of the Sodpur Khadi Pratishthan to the All-India Spinners' Association of Ahmedabad, sent to Mr. Gandhi for perusal. It is for consideration whether this document together with its covering letter should also be withheld or allowed to go on. It seems desirable to send a copy of this indenture to the D. I. B.

May be allowed to go on after taking a copy for the D. I. B.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL

Please see italic recommendations.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL

H.M.

I agree.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS

15th April

[H. D. (Spl. Br), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 159]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S. D. 3040

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 18th April 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Ag. Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 278, dated the 5th instant, forwarding for orders two letters intended for Mr. Gandhi (which are herewith returned with their accompaniments), I am directed to inform you that the letter dated the 25th March 1932 (marked 'B '). and its accompaniment should be withheld. As regards the second letter, dated the 1st April 1932 (marked 'A'), I am to say that Government see no objection to its being delivered together with its accompaniment.

2. I am to enclose for your information translations to the two letters prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES

for Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

16th April

[H. D. (Spl. Br), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 167]

CONFIDENTIAL

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. DOYLE, C.I.D., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

No. 357 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 28th April 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, a letter written by State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to Mr. K. Natarajan— Another bid for publicity—a " Fatwa from the ' Temple' at Yeravda ".

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

For orders.

As the letter is non-political, it may be allowed to go on.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
29th April

H. M.

Its a pity he can't confine himself to this sort of propaganda.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
30th April

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 169]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
26th April 1932

Dear Mr. Natarajan,

I am sure you have read the reports of an exhibition given by an Indian Yogi of his powers before an audience specially assembled at the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital. The Yogi is reported to have eaten a live viper's head,

nails, nitric acid and the like and that the Chief Justice and his wife were among the distinguished audience. The report states that one lady was so disgusted at the eating of the viper's head that she abruptly left the hall before the exhibition was finished. I do not know how you look at such exhibitions. In my opinion they are degrading both for the demonstrator as also for the public. And if the demonstrator died, as he most likely would, if these demonstrations were continued, those who encouraged him by attending them, I should hold guilty of manslaughter. I do not think that either science or humanity is served by such revolting exhibitions. The textbooks on Hatayoga clearly lay down that the Hatayogis are expected not to exhibit their yogic powers or make use of them for purposes of gain. If you agree with me, will you not initiate an agitation in the daily press for preventing such cruel exhibitions ? One man, I suppose you know, recently died in Rangoon, precisely giving demonstrations such as the one reported in Bombay.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 185]

CONFIDENTIAL

D. O. No. D. 3644/32-Poll

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

HOME DEPARTMENT

Simla, the 20th April 1932

My dear Maxwell,

Mr. Percy Bartlett, the General Secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, London, who has been on a visit to India, recently asked permission to see Mr. Gandhi in Jail in order to deliver to him personally a message given to him by Dr. Rabindranath Tagore. Mr. Bartlett was informed that it was not possible to accede to his request for an interview with Mr. Gandhi but that the Government of India would be prepared to consider the question of forwarding the message with covering letter for delivery to Mr. Gandhi through the Government of Bombay. After some correspondence regarding the contents of the covering letter, Mr. Bartlett has now prepared the enclosed which the Government of India think might be made over to Mr. Gandhi with the message from Dr. Tagore and they would be glad if both could be forwarded to Mr. Gandhi. Mr. Bartlett has been informed that the Government of India cannot undertake to communicate to him any reply that Mr. Gandhi may wish to send, since it is obviously necessary to take precautions, against the matter being made the occasion for propaganda. If

Mr. Gandhi gives a reply would you kindly therefore forward it to the Government of India with any comments the Bombay Government may wish to make.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) H. W. EMERSON

R. M. MAXWELL, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part 1, p. 189]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S. D. 3237
HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)
Bombay, 28th April 1932

In forwarding for delivery to Mr. Gandhi the accompanying letter and its enclosure from Mr. Percy Bartlett (General Secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, London), which were received through the Government of India, I am desirous to request that, should Mr. Gandhi address a reply to Mr. Bartlett, it may be submitted to Government.

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES
27th April

Major M. G. BHANDARI, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part 1, p. 191]

CONFIDENTIAL

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. DOYLE, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

No. 380 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 6th May 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, a letter written by State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Mr. Percy Bartlett, as directed

in Government Home Department Demi-official No. S.D. 3237, dated 28th April 1932 to Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S., Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 193]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
4th May 1932

Dear Friend,

I received your letter only last Saturday together with the Poet's draft appeal. I do not know that you expect me to say anything now. But this I can say that I should yield to no one in my desire for conciliation and peace. You may therefore depend on my doing nothing that will prevent them. Consistently with national honour, I would do everything that would promote conciliation and peace. More I may not say from behind the prison wall.

I am glad you and the other friends were able to visit India and hope that you were none the worse for its climate.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

Mr. PERCY BARTLETT,

General Secretary, The Fellowship of Reconciliation, London.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part 1, p. 297]

Extract from Times of India, dated 24th June 1932

DR. TAGORE'S MESSAGE

Appeal for a Gesture of Goodwill

The text of Dr. Tagore's message to which Mr. Gandhi's message was a reply is now available. It appears that in March last some members of the Fellowship of Reconciliation were on visit to India when Dr. Rabindranath Tagore gave them his message which is dated March 22. The message began " From the depths of the present atmosphere of suffering the cry has

come for the inauguration of a new age of faith and reconciliation, for a fellowship of understanding between races and nations alienated by cruel politics and diplomacy. We in India are ready for a fundamental change in our affairs, which will bring harmony and understanding into our relationship with those who have inevitably been brought near to us. We are waiting for a gesture of goodwill from both sides, spontaneous and generous in its faith in humanity, which will create a future of moral federation of constructive works of public good, of inner harmony of peace between the peoples of India and England.

" The visit of our friends from England has confirmed the immediate possibility of such an intimate fellowship and truth in our mutual relationship, and I feel called upon to appeal to all who have the welfare of humanity at heart to come forward at this critical hour and courageously take up the onus of building upon the bare foundation of faith, of acceptance of truth in a spirit of generous mutual forgiveness. The memory of the past, however painful it may have been for us all, should never obscure the vision of the perfect future which it is for us jointly to create. Indeed, our experience of the futility of suspicion and hostility must inspire us with a profounder belief in the truth of the simple fellowship of hearts, in the mighty power of creative understanding between individuals as well as nations, inspired by a common urge of love."

This message was communicated to Mr. Gandhi in jail, and it is presumably Mr. Gandhi's reply to one of the members of the Fellowship, who received the original message from Dr. Tagore, that has since been published in London.

Mr. Gandhi's reply has already been published.

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 211*]

CONFIDENTIAL

D. O. No. D. 3464/32-Poll

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

HOME DEPARTMENT

Simla, the 28th April 1932

My dear Maxwell,

With reference to your official letter No. S. D. 2754 of the 5th of April, I enclose a copy of the letter addressed to me by Mr. Gandhi. I am to say that no reply is being sent to it.

We have no record of the remark attributed to Lord Irwin by Gandhi, and personally I cannot recollect it. On the one hand, Lord Irwin appreciated the difficulties in the way of the ultimate restoration of normal conditions and relations which the permanent transfer of immovable property involves. On the other hand, as recognised in the Delhi settlement, he would have nothing to do with Government intervention where properties had been sold, and he realised that the non-return of lands was one of the best guarantees as it has proved in Gujarat against future trouble.

The Government of India assume that the Government of Bombay are giving sanction to the forfeiture and sale of lands only in those cases where the defaulters are recalcitrant in their refusal to pay their dues and other means of recovery have failed. They do not propose to interfere with the discretion of the local Government in the matter.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) H. W. EMERSON

R. M. MAXWELL, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Home Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 213]

(Copy)

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
28th March 1932

Dear Mr. Emerson,

I was distressed to read a note by the Director of Information, Bombay, that the Bombay Government intended to sell out beyond recall the lands of "recalcitrant" farmers of Ras and such other villages. I do not know that you can recall the remark made by Lord Irwin last year, in the course of the conversations, that under a recurrence of the circumstances which had actuated the Government to sell out some holdings in Ras during the previous Satyagraha Campaign, the experiment must not be repeated. I do not suggest that this remark was anything more than the then personal wish of Lord Irwin. But I cannot help feeling hurt that all such generous wishes of an honourable and high functionary should be in danger of being set aside or over-looked. And even apart from Lord Irwin's obiter statement, I would like the legacies of bitternesses to be left either by Government officials or Congressmen to be reduced to a minimum, if they cannot be avoided altogether. Surely all irrevocable acts which parties might possibly deplore in future or for which posterity may curse us should be avoided.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 225]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

24th May 1932

Dear Friend,

I have your circular letter about Acharya Ray's Seventieth Birthday Celebration. I send you the accompanying humble tribute in the hope that it would be allowed to reach your hands by the authorities.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

Dr. SATYA CHURN LAW,

Secretary, Acharya Ray Birthday Celebration Committee, Calcutta.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 227]

(Tribute to Acharya on his 70th Birthday Celebration)

Acharya Ray I had the privilege of knowing for the first time when Gokhale was his next door neighbour in 1901 and I was undergoing tutelage under the latter. It was difficult to believe that the man in simple Indian dress and wearing simpler manners could possibly be the great scientist and professor he even then was. And it took my breath away when I heard that out of his princely salary he kept only a few rupees for himself and the rest he devoted to public uses and particularly for helping poor students. Thirty years have made no difference to the great and good servant of India. Acharya Ray has set us an example of ceaseless service, enthusiasm and optimism, of which we may well be proud.

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

24th May 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, pp. 233-235]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

26th May 1932

My dear Verrier,

'Ask and ye shall receive' has been verified once more. Your lovely letter arrived here today. I read it after five and today being Friday, without any prompting from me, Mahadev gave effect to your suggestion about

fellowship by singing 'Lead Kindly Light' in its very beautiful Gujarati version. At the evening service it is always Mahadev's part to sing the bhajan. The hour would be approximately 7-40. The prayer commences at 7-30 and opens with the 19 Verses at the end of the second Discourse of the Gita. It is followed by Ram-nama and then comes the bhajan. As soon as I read your suggestion I had no hesitation in endorsing it, but I was debating as to the choice of the hymn. I had in mind the singing of the English text and so the choice was limited. It could either be 'Lead Kindly Light' or 'When I Survey The Wondrous Cross' or 'Take My Life And Let It Be', for the simple reason that I myself cannot very well sing any of the other favourite hymns of mine,—not that even these three I sing accurately. But it would be fair approach to the tune as I have heard it. Mahadev is unused to the tune of English hymns, but by thinking of taking up the Gujarati version of 'Lead Kindly Light', Mahadev solved the difficulty about the choice and singing. There is a special fitness about the choice of this hymn of Newman's. It was that hymn which, when I was in physical distress, was sung to me by Olive Doke in Johannesburg under the late Rev. Doke's roof. So you may take it that we shall be here singing this hymn at 7-40 every Friday evening with the knowledge that you at least will be joining us wherever you are, whether the suggestion is taken up or not by the other friends. Let there be no press publicity about this at the present moment. I do not know that the Government will appreciate it and from my place as a prisoner I would not like to do a single thing that they would not approve of, unless of course I had to engage in an open quarrel with them in any vital matter. I shall be asking Narandas to sing this bhajan on Friday at the Ashram prayer which during Summer months always begins at 7-30.

Yes I like very much, if only for the sake of the old lady and Eldith, the idea of your going to England for a few months and you certainly need the change for the sake of your health. And since you should be going the sooner you leave the better.

I do not like the idea of mother and Eldith coming to Village India or any other India. The spirit with them may be willing but the flesh will not respond. You yourself are no bright example in this respect, and it would be unwise to put the strain on them of settling down in India. It would be however a wholly different thing if independently of any promoting on your or anybody else's part, they felt the clearest possible call from within. But in that case there would be no question of seeking or accepting advice from any quarter. Such cases have of course happened before now. There the spirit surmounts the flesh.

I do not at all like the news about Shamrao's illness. He should be ashamed of himself. He must learn the art of living befitting a true servant of Daridri Narayana.

The passages you quoted from Ptolinus are very striking and very beautiful. The first is good for all time, the second the modern mind will carp at. I have personally no difficulty in understanding the author's meaning.

During your absence and Shamrao's who will be in charge of Karanjia ?

With love from us all to you all including your host and hostess.

(Sd.) BAPU

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 239]

VIENNA (AUSTRIA)

Tuesday, the 17th May 1932

By Air Mail

Revered Mahatmaji,

On the eve of my departure to Vienna from Bombay on 10th March I tried to visit you but as I could not succeed in that I wrote you a letter on 7th March on Yeravda jail address and requested therein to send me an introductory letter to the Eye Surgeon at Vienna. I do not know whether you got that letter or not. You are aware about the condition of my eyes. Last jail incarceration at Raipur told very badly on my eyes and as my eyes have gone from bad to worst I was required to hurry up at Vienna as I almost exhausted all the leading eye specialists in India. Here everything is expensive. As my institution has been looked up and all my workers in jail I am rather handicapped. I hope you will do me the favour of sending an introductory letter to Professor Dr. Meller and Lindner on my address, telling to them my pecuniary circumstances and importance of helping a public man who is losing his eyesight for ever if not properly attended. I have been operated for cataract in my right eye uptil now four times by Professor Dr. M. Sachs but as the vitrious fluid used to come out every time they could not take away cataract and hence they could not treat for opacitis and detachment of Retina. President Vithalbhai Patel is improving in his health. Hoping to get reply from you at your earliest convenience by Air Mail I come to close.

I am,

Yours, sufferer in your cause,

(Sd.) A. R. TIJARAY

My address—

A. R. Tijaray,

Principal, Tilak Vidyalyaya, Nagpur.

C/o Pension Pfeffler, Wilhelm Exnergasse, 28, Wien IX, Austria.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 241]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

30th May 1932

My dear Tijaray,

I have your letter, received just now. The previous letter you refer to was not received a tall. I would have attended to it there and then. Sardar Vallabhbhai who is present whilst I am dictating this and who has shared all the correspondence with me has also no recollection whatsoever of anything having been received from you. However I know no one in Vienna. I have never been there. But I have no doubt that when you tell the specialist the whole of your story he will treat your case as he must have treated similar cases before. If it is of any value, you may certainly use this letter to identify you as Principal, Tilak Vidyalyaya, Nagpur. I hope you will benefit by the treatment there. I am glad that Vithalbhai is improving. Please remember me to him.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 245]

CONFIDENTIAL

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government, Home Department,
Bombay.

No. 402 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 13th May 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to forward for favour of any action you may deem necessary a copy of letter from State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi and copies of correspondence relative thereto.

I have the honour to be, '

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Are letters posted from prison forwarded by the jail authorities ? If so, are they liable to censorship?

We might in the meanwhile find out whether any of these letters were observed in censorship at Bombay or Ahmedabad. Unless they were so detained, it is difficult to see why any of them were not delivered or Mr. Gandhi came to know of non-delivery.

Presumably they were not registered and so cannot be traced by the postal department. The Inspector-General of Prisons will presumably inform the State Prisoner that all the letters were duly posted and no cause for their non-delivery is known, but that inquiries are being made to see if any of these can be traced.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, pp. 247-248]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

7th May 1932

Dear Colonel Doyle,

I wish to bring to your notice a matter that has reached the point of exasperation. Over two months ago Sardar Vallabhbhai wrote two letters, one to his son at Bombay and one to Mr. G. V. Mavlankar at Ahmedabad, both of which were of a business type. They were duly authorised, but never reached the addressees. On March 26 Sjt. Mahadeo Desai wrote his monthly letter to his wife at the Ashram at Sabarmati. The letter never reached her. On the 28th ultimo I wrote, by permission, a letter addressed to the Ashram and meant for an erring boy of mine. It was most important letter in answer to him. The letter was not delivered at the Ashram, though subsequent letters were delivered. Almost invariably the Ashram post reaches the Ashram two or three days after the due day of delivery. I infer from this that the letters are delayed, where they are not withheld entirely, by some authority. I know that correspondence of civil resisters is under strict censorship. I have nothing to say against it. But the correspondence sent from a prison, duly franked by prison authorities would, I should imagine, be free from further censorship and consequent delay or danger of being withheld altogether. I do not write letters uselessly and hope I am meticulous about observing the terms under which I am permitted to write these letters. If they require a double censorship, it may be well to let us know. If they are withheld even after being passed by prison authorities I think it is due to us that we should know at least the fact of detention. The letter that I sent to my son was designed to affect the future course of his

conduct and it had attached to it an original letter which my son had sent for my inspection and which he desired should be returned to him. I have no desire whatsoever to write a single line that I would not like any Government official to see. But I do feel hurt when even letters sent by prisoners that are held to be unobjectionable by prison authorities are delayed or intercepted in course of transmission.

I should, therefore, thank you if you would kindly enquire of proper authorities as to the fate of the letters in question. I should be glad if it were discovered that my suspicions were groundless and that there had been no interference with this correspondence, and that the delays had been accidental and that the missing letters had been found and delivered to the addressees.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 249]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 386 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 9th May 1932

MEMORANDUM

Reference attached letter from
State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

Will you kindly ascertain and let this office know :

1. When exactly the letters mentioned were written.
2. When they left the Jail Office—
 - (a) for post,
 - (b) for further disposal either by this office or Secretary to Government.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 251]

CONFIDENTIAL

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

No. 4172 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 11th May 1932

Sir,

With reference to your memorandum No. 386, dated 9th May 1932, I have the honour to state as follows :

State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi wrote the letter to his son at the Ashram at Sabarmati on 28th April 1932. It left the Jail office on the same day. This letter was posted and not sent through your office or Secretary to Government.

State Prisoner Vallabhnbhai wrote two letters some two months back but exact date is not known.

" B " Class prisoner Mahadeo Desai wrote a letter to his wife on 26th April 1932. This letter was posted direct to the addressee on the same day or the next day.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

[True Copy]

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 253]

Submitted with reference to Secretary's note on p. 1 *ante*.

2. It has been informally ascertained from the Superintendent of the Arthur Road Prison that letters from prisoners are stamped with service stamps and the cover franked by the Jail authorities. There is thus a clear

indication that the letter emanates from the Jail and has undergone censorship by the Superintendent of the Jail and is therefore unobjectionable. There is no apparent reason, therefore, to subject such letters to a second censorship merely because they are addressed to persons whose post is under censorship. That they are subjected to censorship for a second time is apparent from a letter recently written by the D. I. B. to the Deputy Commissioner of Police, S. B., Bombay, asking him not to censor letters written by the Meerut accused confined in the Meerut Jail.

3. The accompanying endorsement to the Commissioner of Police and the District Magistrate, Ahmedabad, and letter to the Inspector-General of Prisons, may, if approved, issue.

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES
19th May

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 255]

Below copy of a letter from the Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, No. 402, dated the 13th May 1932, and of its accompaniment.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3676
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 21st May 1932

Copies forwarded with compliments to the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, with a request that he will state urgently if the letter from Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel to his son at Bombay referred to in the correspondence was noticed in censorship at Bombay, and detained. If so, Government may kindly be informed of the reasons for detention and furnished with a copy of the letter.

Government would also be glad to know if arrangements could be made to ensure that letters which are franked by the Jail authorities are not subjected to a second censorship at Bombay.

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.
19th May

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 257]

Below copy of a letter from the inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, No. 402, dated the 13th May 1932 and of its accompaniments.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3677

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 21st May 1932

Copies forwarded with compliments to the District Magistrate, Ahmedabad, with a request that he will state urgently if the three letters, namely (1) from Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel to Mr. G. V. Mavlankar, Ahmedabad, written about two months back, (2) from Mr. Mahadeo Desai to his wife at the Ashram at Sabarmati, dated 26th April 1932, and (3) from Mr. Gandhi to his son at the Ashram at Sabarmati, dated 28th April 1932, were noticed in censorship at Ahmedabad and if any or all of them were detained. If so, Government may kindly be informed of the reasons for detention and furnished with copies of the letters detained.

Government would also be glad to know if arrangements could be made to ensure that letters which are franked by the Jail Authorities are not subjected to a second censorship at Ahmedabad.

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

15th June

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 259]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3678

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 21st May 1932

To

Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 402, dated the 13th May 1932, regarding Mr. Gandhi's complaint that two letters written by Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel, one by Mr. Mahadeo Desai and one by himself did not reach the addressee, I am directed by the Governor in Council to inform you that inquiries are being made from the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, and the District

Magistrate, Ahmedabad, regarding the missing letters. Meanwhile I am to suggest that you should inform Mr. Gandhi that all the letters referred to were duly posted and no cause for their non-delivery is known but that inquiries are being made to see if any of them can be traced.

I have, etc.,

(Sd). C. F. BORGES,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.
19th May

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 261]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 2974/B

HEAD POLICE OFFICE
Bombay, 21st May 1932

My Dear Mr. Maxwell,

Please see your endorsement No. S.D. 3676, H. D. (Political) of date.

The letter from Vallabhbhai Patel to his son at Bombay was not noticed by me at all. Vallabhbhai's son's post is not under censorship.

Letters franked by the Jail authorities will not be subjected to any censorship here.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) K. F. PETIGARA

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department (Political), Bombay.

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

28th May

The reply of the District Magistrate, Ahmedabad, to Government endorsement No. S.D. 3677, dated 21st May 1932, is still awaited. Perhaps the accompanying expediter to him may issue.

A.S.

(Sd.).....

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 263*]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C.N.J.P.S.R.I.-103
Ahmedabad, 30th May 1932

From

J. B. Irwin, Esquire, D.S.O., M.C., I.C.S.,
District Magistrate Ahmedabad ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Subject.—Letter from State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

Sir,

With reference to your No. S.D. 3677, dated 21st May 1932, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to state that the letters referred to were not noticed in censorship at Ahmedabad.

Letters which are franked by the Jail authorities are not subjected to a second censorship at Ahmedabad.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) J. B. IRWIN,
District Magistrate, Ahmedabad.

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 265*]

The replies of the Commissioner of Police and the District Magistrate, Ahmedabad, show that none of the letters alleged to be missing was even noticed in censorship.

2. If the letters in question had been sent by registered post it would have been possible for the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison to make further enquiries about them through the Postal authorities, but it does not appear from the Superintendent's letter to the Inspector-General of Prisons, that the letters were registered, as indeed there was no reason why they should be. If, therefore, the letters were sent by ordinary post, we have only the word of the complainants that the letters were not

delivered, and it seems hardly credible that all four of them went astray in the post, especially when they were franked by the Jail authorities.

The attached reply may, if approved, issue.

Secretary.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
1st June

H.M.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
4th June

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 267]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4022
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 6th June 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In continuation of Government letter No. S.D. 3678, dated the 21st May 1932, I am directed to request that Mr. Gandhi may be informed that enquiries have not elicited any information regarding the missing letters, and that his presumption that the letters were probably subjected to a second censorship and withheld is unfounded.

I have, etc.,
(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,
Officiating Secretary to Government,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 269]

SHRIMATI NATHIBAI DAMODHAR THACKERSEY
INDIAN WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY
YERANDAWANA

Deccan Gymkhana P. O., District Poona.
Dated 10th June 1932.

From

The Registrar,
S. N. D. T. Indian Women's University,
Poona No. 4 ;

To

The Home Member,
Government of Bombay, Poona.

Sir,

In continuation of our interview on Telephone, I am sending the papers mentioned in the interview. These papers give an account of the working of the University and request Mr. Gandhi to give his moral support to this work. The necessity for this step has arisen because the Trustees of the late Sir Vithaldas Damodhar Thackersey have refused to give the annual grant of Rs. 52,500 which was being paid to the University for the last 16 years.

It is thought that Mr. Gandhi's views in this matter might be very useful in solving this dispute and we shall be very grateful if the papers are forwarded to Mr. Gandhi at an early date so that we could receive his answer before our Senate Meeting which is to be held on the 18th of this month.

I shall be very glad if a reading of these papers creates in you an interest in our Institutions and shall be grateful if you pay us a visit during this season.

I shall also gladly explain anything you might want explained after going through these papers.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) I. KARVE,

Registrar.

(Mrs. Iravati Karve, M.A., Ph.D.)

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 271]

SHRIMATI NATHIBAI DAMODHAR THACKERSEY

INDIAN WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY

YERANDAWANA

Deccan Gymkhana P. O., Dist. Poona

Dated 8th June 1932

Dear Mahatmaji,

I must apologize at the outset for addressing the following lines to you. My field of work being very small I always try to avoid troubling you and therefore I do not see you or write to you unless there is something very important. Before I went to America, I requested you and you sent me a short note of introduction which was of great use to me in my American and African Tours.

The enclosed papers will show you the present position of the Women's University, both as regards the progress achieved so far, as also in respect of the calamity that is likely to endanger its very existence. I earnestly request you to go through the important portions in these papers so as fully to realise the gravity of the situation.

I wish to have a short note from you giving your opinion regarding the work of the University and emphasising the urgent need of substantial help, at this juncture. Such a note will be of great value especially as I am thinking of writing to a few friends abroad for help. You can realise how very difficult it is to get money in these hard times. I wish to do what little I can at this advanced age to save from destruction, if possible, the work so laboriously developed with the co-operation and sympathy of innumerable friends. I am sure you will not hesitate to give your moral support to a good cause, if you are satisfied that its work is honestly and vigorously carried on.

The rise in the number of students taking up our courses during the last four years is particularly encouraging and I am very hopeful of the future, in spite of the present difficulty which is almost threatening the very life of the University.

A correct appreciation of the work from you will go a great way to induce people to help and I hope you will do the needful in the matter. Your note need not be for press publication but you should permit its private circulation.

I hope you will carefully go over all the papers sent herewith and see for yourself what the University has achieved in the last sixteen years. Women's education has not been a very favourite subject with our people and in our case the difficulty is enhanced by our striking altogether a new line. I think this is the foremost consideration which cannot be ignored in judging our results.

Your sincerely,

Sir,

Prof. Karve was in a great hurry to attend to a Meeting and he has unfortunately forgotten to sign the letter and has gone away to Kolhapur. He is returning to Poona in a day or two and after his return he will send to you the signed letter. In the meanwhile please go through the above letter and oblige.

(Sd.) I. KARVE
Registrar

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 275]

So far as H. D. is concerned I see no objection to forwarding these papers to Mr. Gandhi. I think however that E. D. should see first I shall be obliged if they will treat this as urgent, as the matter is apparently to come up before the Senate of the institution on the 18th instant. It is not however likely that Mr. Gandhi will reply by that date.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
13th June

Secretary, E. D.

The Women's University is not recognised or assisted by Government in any way for the absence of Mr. Grieve, I have consulted Mr. Moos who is of opinion that its work is of some practical value, and that from the E. D. point of view there is no objection to forwarding this reference to Mr. Gandhi.

(Sd.) R. B. EWBANK
13th June

H. M., E. D.

As the Secretary has pointed out this institution is not aided and not even recognised by Government and has no claim of any kind upon its consideration. A prisoner is a prisoner and I do not think it is proper or even politic on this occasion to allow this institution the special privilege of communicating with Mr. Gandhi merely for collecting subscription. I am aware of some other institutions who would be only too pleased to have the privilege of communicating with Mr. Gandhi and adding to their riches or reputation. A privilege of this kind should be allowed for very special circumstances in the interest of the State only. I am afraid if this concession were granted it would establish a very embarrassing precedent and I am therefore not in favour of the same being granted.

(Sd.) G. H. HIDAYATULLAH
16th June

H. M., H. D.

As there is nothing political behind this, I do not see that there is any harm in forwarding the papers to Mr. Gandhi. It will divert his mind.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
17th June

H. E. (P. S. G.)

It appears to me that Mr. Gandhi cannot help the Indian Women's University in any way unless publicity is given to any favourable views that he expresses about its work. As our policy is to deny him all chances of obtaining publicity, it seems to me that we are likely to land ourselves in difficulties if we now agree to forward these papers to Mr. Gandhi.

2. In any case I do not think we should forward the papers without referring to the Government of India.

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
19th June 1932

Reply that Government regret that they cannot forward H. M. the letter accompaniment.

(Sd.) G. A. THOMAS
20th June

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 279]

No. S.D. 4393
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 21st June 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Registrar,
Shrimati Nathibai Damodhar Thackersey
Indian Women's University, Poona.

Madam,

I am directed to inform you that Government regret that they cannot forward to Mr. Gandhi the papers (herewith returned) which were received with your letter to the Honourable the Home Member, dated the 10th instant.

I have the honour to be,
Madam,
Your most obedient servant,

C. F. BORGES,
for Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 281]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5368 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS
POONA
Register No. 854
Dated 18th June 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE
Dated 18th June 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a telegram from State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi to His Excellency the Governor of United Provinces. He is suffering from sixth instant from suspected mild enteric though he seems to be recovering. Stop. Request his removal to healthier and more accessible place preferably to Dehradun to join Pandit Jawaharlal with whom he is close friends or to Yeravda to join me if removal here at all possible.

From

M. K. Gandhi, Prisoner, Yeravda Central Prison.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 289]

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAMS DEPARTMENT

25th June 1932

U. P. Government, Camp Nainital,
Chief Secretary, Bombay Government, Poona.

H. E. would be obliged if Mr. Gandhi could be informed that His Excellency making enquiries about the condition of his son in Gorakhpur.

P. S. G.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
26th June

[H. D. (Spl. Dr.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 301]

8, Royal Exchange Place
Calcutta, 27th June 1932

My Dear Bapu,

I hope by this time you have begun to feel improvement in your hand. I wonder whether fomentation with hot water can be of any help. I find Kellog recommends it.

I had sent a piece of khadi-made of yarn spun by my sister. I got it washed and hence the delay.

After you have gone through the two booklets sent by me I should like to send you something more. But I should like to have from you questions on points on which you require more explanation (sic). This will help me in elaborating the points.

The economic distress is getting worse and worse. While in America I felt that the present world-wide distress is entirely due to the modern methods of business. The world is full of commodities and yet there is starvation. The first essential to do is to wipe off all debts at least partially. This could be done by devaluating the price of money more easily than by any other means. Second thing to do is to see that protection is given more to cottage production than to the mass production. This is a preventive measure to meet future crisis. I have a desire to elaborate these ideas in a new booklet. But sometimes I feel I may be misunderstood. I would certainly vote for khadi and gur yet I have cotton and sugar mills. I wonder what you think of this anomaly. I don't see any wrong in mills but I feel that logical end to Swadeshism is in cottages. I see nothing wrong in this anomaly but I feel diffident to talk for fear of being misunderstood by friends. Yet at times I can't help expressing my views.

Yours affectionately,
(Sd.) GHANSHYAM

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part I, p. 319]

Translation of the Hindi accompaniment.

Y. M.
28th June 1932

Bhai Ghanshyamdas,

I have received the Khaddar, but no letter has been received. Please tell Behenji (sister) that I shall lovingly be using the Khaddar. Since I wrote I have been studying books on Economy. I have read your two pamphlets. I can understand (the subject) better than before. But as yet the picture

of the whole subject (lit. all things) does not come before me. But I am pursuing it and so I hope to be sufficiently acquainted with the subject. So far I have been reading (Prof.) Shah's book on Banking and Exchange. In this connection any books which may be considered worth reading may be sent. It would be very well if the Reports of the Herschal Committee, Fowler Committee, Babington Smith, Chamberlain and Hilton Young Committees are printed in book form. If they are not so printed they may be sent as they are available. Dissenting minutes should also be with them. I also wish to have these Reports over and above the literature you have in mind. If you send also the books our experts have written there will be sufficient acquaintance with the subject.

Blessings from Bapu,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 11]

TELEGRAM—Ordinary

6th July 1932

Original

To

Papa,
Gandhi Ashram, Tiruchengodu (South India).

Devdas wires news your husband's death. We are all deeply stirred but you will not grieve over death which is common lot of humanity. Remember you are daughter of brave father. May god give you peace. Love from us all.

BAPU

TELEGRAM—Ordinary

To

C. Rajgopalachari,
Prisoner, District Jail, Vellore.

6th July 1932

We are deeply grieved over Papa's bereavement of which Devdas has sent wire. But you stand in no need consolation from us. God must be your rock. Love from us all.

BAPU

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 17]

FEROZEPORE CANTT.

Dated 1st July 1932

From

M. A. Khan,
Rose Cottage,
Kotwal Street, Bazaar No. 3 ;

To

M. K. Gandhi, Esquire,
C/o Jail Superintendent, Yeravda Jail (Poona).

Dear Sir,

The accompanying reflects the correct and candid view of great majority of the Indian people regarding the Political agitation carried on by the present day Congress since you have this body in your grip.

Your " Civil Disobedience " has already caused and is causing great misery to the people of India. Do you think that a mighty Empire like the British which has been founded on the solid rock of justice and equality would yield an inch to your hollow threat ? Do not forget that it was ordained by the Mighty that England should rule India—so long India cannot stand on her legs.

You may be a spiritual soul—but you have already given sufficient proofs that you are a bad politician and no statesman at all. It is a pity that you have not improved by your past experience.

In short, you have done enough mischief and it is now the fervent prayer of the whole India, except a few thousands of your Congressmen that you should retire to some holy place in a far-off country like Tibet for the elevation of your soul, and leave the serious subject of Indian politics to the well-balanced heads of H. H. the Aga Khan, R. H. Shrinivas Shastri, Sir Sapru, Jaykar, Sir Ali Imam and a host of such eminent and wise political leaders of India.

Yours truly,

(Sd.) M. A. KHAN,

L.B.S.,

Aukaf Secretary, Anjuman Islamia,
Ferozepore Cantt. (PD).

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 19]

Some Home Truths for Mr. M. K. Gandhi

Dear Mahatma,

Since you have been sole Dictator of the Indian Congress, you have misled this body that it is hopeless to expect any concessions from our rulers, and that political agitation on the constitutional lines is a delusion

and snare ; that the true bureaucrat does not appreciate moderation and always treats the constitutional reformer with secret contempt. Further you have been the sole instrument of that nefarious movement : " Civil Disobedience", which has since its conception done and is still—doing mischief and a great harm to India.

Do not you think that this cult of Civil Disobedience is a counsel of despair, which may appeal to the impatient idealist, but which is foredoomed to failure ? I speak not in anger, but in sorrow, for it is quite possible to sympathise with this new phase of patriotism, this yearning for an unattainable ideal. But one must look facts in the face. We must recognise them loyally, and if it is true that no man is every good for much who has not in his youth been carried off his feet by fiery (sic) enthusiasm, it is equally true it needs the bit and the bridle. For enthusiasm, unless controlled by sound and sober judgment, frequently ends in ghastly tragedies, which our common motherland is to our great shame and sorrow now experiencing.

You have forgotten that rashness is not courage. That hasty maxims drawn from the history of other nations and other times are extremely dangerous, as the conditions are never the same, and actions which produces a certain result in one country at one time may lead to directly opposite result in another country and at another time. That there is no doctrine so universal and comprehensive that you are bound to act upon it at all hazards.

You pride yourself on the idea that you alone have the courage of your convictions and that the constitutional fighters are a hopeless lot, and you refuse to be benefited by past experience. But you forget that there is a faith, and, perhaps, as has been rightly said a deeper faith which knows how to stand still and wait patiently till the fruit is ripe ; and may be gathered without violence. The millennium will not arrive when all Government Colleges and Schools are closed, when all Municipal and District Boards are abolished and elected members refuse to sit in the Legislative Councils of the Empire ; and the people coerced not to pay the Government taxes. Petulance is not manliness. It is easy to revile authority in season and out of season, but not so simple to build up a nation, or to govern a sub-continent like India. Mere rant, however full of fire, will not help us. What India wants is action, discipline and leadership of the right sort and not of the type of instilling hatred for the established Government in the raw minds of the youth of India and creating anarchists and then extolling murderers as martyrs. What India wants is earnest work in co-operation with the Government in any case in conformity with moral and constitutional methods. Temporary failure must not discourage true patriots and high souls.

I implore you not to obstinately preserve in your present misguided and harmful course. Do not be beguiled by mere phantoms. You cannot put an end to British Rule by boycotting the administration. Your only chance under the present circumstances—when our country is so sorely divided—of gaining your object lies in co-operation with the Government in every measure which is likely to hasten the achievement of India's political goal, for so long as we do not show ourselves worthy of it, rely upon it, England will maintain her rule, and if you really want self-government, you must show that you are fit for such responsibility. Then and then only will the English retire from this trust of Governing India their task completely accomplished and their duty done. But, suppose your present detestable movement is successful and the English retire from India, leaving the people to stew in their own juice. Imagine the chaos and disorder into which the whole country would be immediately plunged, and the state of the country would not be better than what England saw when she first came to this country of numberless castes and creeds, whose religious scruples and dogmas are as wide as under as the poles.

India's progress may be slow owing to lethargy and communal strifes, but we must not lose heart; no, not even if the dial is set back ; for such things are inevitable in the course of human affairs. Depend upon it unless history is a record of lies, Englishmen love freedom as their most cherished possession, but do not forget that the freedom they love, is freedom broadening slowly from precedent to precedent, and not a huge jump in the dark. I repeat that our object can only be achieved by constitutional agitation and not by the foolish attempt to paralyse the administration.

Remember, visions may be sublime, but they are not real, and a universal boycott which would make administration impossible, seems to be the figment of a disordered imagination.

Privileges have to be constitutionally and orderly fought for. and it would be childish to turn away from the peaceful and proper course ; simply because our previous attempts are not crowned by tangible immediate results. Our duty lies clear before us to go on with our work firmly but with moderation and above all with humility.

(Signed) M. A. KHAN,

Aukaf Secretary,
Anjuman Islamia, Ferozepore Cantt.,
Punjab (India).

Rose Cottage,
Ferozepore Cantt.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 29]

C/o SETH GOVINDLAL
7, Land's End Road
Malabar Hill, Bombay
7th July 1932

Beloved Bapu,

Your letter of 30th June only reached me yesterday afternoon (6th July). The post mark was Yeravda, 5th July, so it did not come along at once.

You will have got my post-card saying I had handed over your letters to Damodardas and his wife. They have been greatly comforted by them. Damodardas will write to you fully on Monday. He has been certainly better since the last two days.

I will write to Narandasbhai to-day regarding the Urdu-English and English-Urdu Dictionaries. They must be either in my box or in the Library, I can't now remember which. So you are developing your Urdu studies! I shall ask Muslim friends if they can recommend any specially interesting books.

Your change in diet must take a little time before any marked improvement in the elbow could be expected.

I am standing the rains much better than I used to do, and I take it to be due to this improvement in my health. We have had trying weather too, lately, in Bombay. All last week, and up to the day before yesterday the damp heat was such that one had to live day and night with a towel by one's side for mopping oneself. Now, since two days there has been much rain and wind. The sea and the sky have blended into one grey mass, and the air is filled with driving rain and the road of the waves.

Verrier should be landing in Italy to-day. Three days with the Siena sisters then 12th to 14th at Villeneuve and 15th London. How happy his mother must be.

I suppose we must expect to wait some time for an answer to your letter about me. In the mean time I repeat to myself "Blessed is he who expecteth nothing".

I have arranged with Manilalbhai for Tilak to stay at Manibhavan since yesterday. I felt it was too much of a risk letting him go backwards and forwards to that dangerous area very day. And now that the change is made I hear from Tilak that it has relieved Pyarali and his wife too, as his going in and out of their house was apt to draw undesirable attention on it. Tilak thinks they will probably remove to their country place now. I will write to Nurbanuben and give her your messages. I had talked to her when she came here about the advantages of giving up salt if she wants to reduce her weight. She thought she might manage it for a few weeks. But that much would do her a lot of good.

Tilak does not seem quite well. I can't make out yet exactly what his trouble is. He says he does not suffer from indigestion or constipation. I think it is more in his nervous system. He needs quiet, any agitation or unexpected development is likely to upset him. He does not show it outwardly, but it tells on him all the more inside. He has taken two full days off each week, but even so I am not happy about him, and must tempt him into more rest. He arrived this morning not looking at all well, and said " I think a little hard work is what I need ". Poor boy, he will worry over not being able to work as hard as others.

I will certainly ask Panditji if he can recommend a friend to teach me the cadence of Ramanam—I think I may need two or three-half hours to perfect the thing ! It is something one must do well or not at all.

I think more and more in my prayers of the need to repeat them and sing them as beautifully as possible. The more we love a person the more we want anything we give him to be as *nice as possible*. Then in the offering of prayer to God Himself there can be no limit to our striving for perfection.

You ask about the International Fellowship members. It was Professor Wadia and Mr. Chimanlal Shah who took me to their meeting, and I believe Professor John Maclean (now in England) is one of the moving spirits. For further particulars I will ask them.

I will send your messages of love to Europe this mail, and especially to that wee baby—Alec in his latest letter says (I don't think I told you) " Edmond is very happy protting about the garden. He is wonderfully strong for his age." Referring to the book in which you wrote for the baby—Alec says " We treasure it".

I hear a rumour that Mahadev is again suffering from that tooth. I hope it is not bad. From my experience I would say " have it out, and be done with it! " I've no more use for stopping teeth. I hope he is otherwise keeping well. I wrote to Devdas a few days ago. I hear he is getting on well now. Of Pyarelal I had good news the other day. By the way it might do wonders for Pyarelal if he gave up salt! You know he eats about 4 times as much salt as any ordinary person. Probably that poisonous fever which so often attacks him would clear out of his system. And who knows whether it might not even help his memory!

Here comes another deluge of rain—the temperature has gone down many degrees now.

Love to others.

Ever your devoted daughter,

(Sd.) MIRA

The little blue envelope this week came as a reminder of the blue skies we have lost. It is quite a museum collection that I have now.

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 39]

Postcard, dated 8th July 1921

Addressed to—

Smt. Goki Behen,
Karsondas Dharamsing's Bungalow,
Krishna Bhuwan, Borivli (B. B. & C. I. Rly.).

Dear Sister,

I wanted to write to you a month ago and therefore I had asked for your address. I have just got it. I hope you are living in peace. *Make proper use of the knowledge you possess.* Are you staying with any one ? Do write to me.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) MOHANDAS

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, pp. 47 to 111]

Translation of letter marked 1 in red chalk

YERAVDA MANDIR

3rd July 1932

Brother Maganbhai,

Ravjibhai's letter about his lands to hand. In it he writes that you see the necessity of selling the lands, and also believe that, the lands will not fetch as much price in the absence of Ravjibhai as would have been obtained, if he had been present. Instead of coming to a decision himself, Ravjibhai has left it to me and Sardar (Vallabhbhai Patel) to decide (the matter). On consultation we have decided that you know most in this matter. There cannot be enough materials before Ravjibhai or ourselves to arrive at a decision. Even if you make endeavours and supply us as much information as might be needed, yet it might be considered insufficient. In such matters, decision cannot be and should not be reached without being actually on the spot. Hence we have come to the decision that, you should do whatever is proper to be done having regard to the circumstances. If you think that it should be sold, you should sell it without any hesitation. And if you feel, that it can be kept—must be kept—then wait till Ravjibhai is released. You do without fear whatever in which lies the advantage. We both of us know that Ravjibhai is insistent to set apart a piece of land sufficient for building an Ashram for the Dharalas. But, if in carrying out that object less price is realised for the lands or if any debt still remains unpaid it is not necessary to be insistent. If there is any need for an Ashram, it will be seen through when Ravjibhai is released.

Blessings from,

MOHANDAS

Yeravda Mandir

2nd July 1932

P. 49

Translation of a letter marked 2 in red chalk

Dear Harjivan,

Your letter and diary to hand. Is the diary to be returned or should I tear it off ? Your disease is an old one. But do not lose heart. Pray to God daily for purity and your passions will subside.

Sharda was not at fault in sending the mangoes (to you). If you really did not want them, you ought to have given them away to somebody—some labourer. Then Sharda would not have sent again. A woman decidedly knows the weakness of her husband and labouring under false affection, nourishes it (weakness). If the husband remains true (to himself) he abandons the weakness, and the woman will not tempt him.

Moreover, what is the fault of Sharda ? I believe what Sharda says. She has no desire for carnal pleasures. She does not become passionate towards any man. Hence there is no reason to doubt her. But supposing that she tells a lie ; yet what is the object in doubting her ? A woman cannot doubt her husband. She puts up with the enjoyment of carnal pleasures by her husband. Why should a man keep a watch over and be angry with her. Let the woman behave as she may. If she does not want to be chaste, the husband cannot make her preserve her chastity by force. Purity belongs to those, who remain pure. Hence, it is deemed proper that you should drive away even from your mind the idea of finding fault with Sharda. Such fault-finding causes the ruin of you both. Also it is sinful and unjust to involve another man on suspicion. It is entirely a sign of weakness. Drive away this weakness. You have done well in putting down such things in your diary.

May God grant you peace and purity. Vithaldas must be doing well.

Blessings from,
BAPU

2nd July 1932

P. 51

Translation of chits stringed together and consecutively marked 1 to 23

1

Dear Mangla,

A letter should not be written on a page torn from a note-book. To remain unconcerned is to remain last in sharing the essence of life, to do service to all, not to expect any obligation (and) to be first to endure suffering. He who thus remains unconcerned will remain engrossed in his duty. There must be love in dealing with one another. It is good that you have undertaken a responsibility carry it out fully. Who stays with Kamu ? Does she write a letter any day ? Send (me) her address.

BAPU

1st July 1932

P. 51

2

Male children and Female children.

It is not good that Premabehn should suggest questions and you ask them. Questions must be (on) useful (subjects). You should be anxious to know their answers. They should be of such a nature that they cannot be answered there. They should not be asked for the sake of asking. In your letter there should be an account of what you do every week. Work—includes (your) study. Now as to questions.

These () many years my life has been devoted to social work. Pure food is that in which there is the least *himsa* (pain or suffering) and which is taken merely for the sustenance of the body.

During a pilgrimage there must be a religious feeling. But religions must always protect (our) social conduct. Religion should not be—ought not to be—antagonistic to pure social conduct. The main characteristic of virtue is truthfulness.

In your letters grammar and spelling must be correct.

BAPU

1st July 1932

P. 53

3

Dear Pushpa,

Received your letter. Sultan means a king. He can do much. But if he does not worship god his whole life and begins to do so in old-age, that cannot be done. There is no reason why you should write a letter in Hindi. It is proper that you write (in Hindi). But my Hindi may not be correct, and so if I write in Hindi it may be a wrong lesson.

BAPU

1st July 1932

P. 53

4

Dear Jekor,

Those who are released go back. This a useless question. When there is nothing specially to ask nothing should be asked. But write an account of your work every week. Your handwriting is good but there is much scope for improvement yet.

BAPU

Y. M.

1st July 1932

P. 53

5

Dear Sharda,

See the meaning of unconcerned in Mangla's letter. There is no rain here. I believe that I am not partial. If what is alleged to have been said by Bava Muldas has been really said by him he has done a wrong thing. Consequently the widow also has suffered. A falsehood cannot be said even to alleviate some body's suffering. In this way suffering cannot be removed.

Y. M.
1st July 1932

BAPU

P. 53

6

Dear Anand,

You have been spoiling your handwriting.

This is not good. Do you write letters to Bai ? How do you spend your whole day ?

BAPU

Y.M.
1st July 1932

P. 55

7

Dear Kusum (Senior),

Some of your letters are altogether useless, as for example, the last one. If there is nothing to write it is much better not to write. It is a defect that nothing suggests itself to you to write. But to send one as if a blank paper does not minimise this defect but confirms it.

BAPU

Y.M.
1st July 1932

P. 55

8

Dear Indu,

Your weight must be said to have been much reduced. For the present leave off prayers. In the morning sleep as long as you can. Increase the proportion of milk and reduce that of any other thing you like. Then see if the weight increases or not. It is enough that what you can do you should do with attention and interest. Never mind if less (work) is done for the present.

BAPU

Y.M.
1st July 1932

P. 55

9

Dear Madhavlall,

I was waiting for your letter. It is a good news that you are keeping good health. Do not fast for the vow of spinning being broken. Do see that there is no break again. And so there must be *takli* along with it. Under the new method of plying the *takli* introduced in the Ashram some have already been turning out 300 yards per hour. There should be no break in the prayers. Never mind if (they are offered) late. It would be better if it is not late. Even if it is late it should not be that the prayers are not offered. Food can be given up but not the prayers. In these circumstances I regard (the absence) of diary to be pardonable. *Ahimsa* can be attained only by strict perseverance.

BAPU

Y. M.

1st July 1932

P. 57

10

Dear Bhagwanji,

Just as you sincerely make use of the remedy I have shown your peace (of mind) will increase. The unseen effect of reading will be wonderful. Live as if you have not read anything before. Whatever is digested will come out of its own accord in the form of work.

BAPU

Y. M.

1st July 1932

P. 57

11

Dear Vanmala,

You have this time spoiled your handwriting. Always write like printed (letters).

As regards the selection of land see what I had written in the letter either of Mangla or Sharda and then ask me if there is anything to ask.

Why is Mohan not regular in writing ?

BAPU

1st July 1932

P. 57

12

Dear Panditji,

I had never heard the name Yoga before. What is the age of Yoga ? How far has she studied ? The supervision of the Vidyapith books has come to our hands be times. Now take good care. Now Mahadev can spin more than 200 yards per hour of 45 counts. The children's question is intricate. I am discussing that in Narandas' letter. See that letter. I have written to Narandas in regard to silent prayers in the morning. If the silent prayers in the morning are held intelligently it would be advantageous. But I had it in mind for the evening. But I do not write here more. See what I have written to Narandas. I have suggested to Mirabehn that if instead of repeating the ' Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram', etc., only the name ' Ram Ram' is repeated in ascending and decending notes then the repetition will be done very briskly and it would be very good for the new comers. But who will teach her this. If yon have anybody in view in Bombay, please write to him to go and teach her this. Have you followed me ?

BAPU

1st July 1932

P. 59

13

Dear Punjabhai,

Received your letter. Go on renouncing the linking for the body so that when it falls you will be experiencing complete peace.

Blessings from,
BAPU

Y.M.

1st July 1932

P. 59

14

Dear Shamal,

Ansuyabehn sees all (of you). She would advise and guide you. It is proper that you ask me. Who cracks jokes ? Meditation with God can be done by repeating His name. The best way to worship God is to see Him is all and so we should lovingly do service to all. What hardship (do you) Staffer in the Ashram. Whatever they may tell Narandasbhai. Do write to me everything in detail.

BAPU

Y.M.

1st July 1932

P. 59
15

Dear Dudhibehn,

I expect from you that you should like to see that the best spun cotton is used by others and you maintain yourself by using the *Khaddar* of lowest quality that is available. If you have not that courage do whatever you are able to do nothing should be done as a result, of my influence or being awed by me. I have shown the way that suggested itself to me. But it can be followed according to the power (in you). Again you should not be pained because what I wished could not be done. If you are pained I would hesitate to show (you) the way. I am receiving information about Valji. God takes care of him.

BAPU

Y.M.
2nd July 1932

P. 61
16

Dear Siddhimati,

Received your letter. Learn Hindi well. What was your weight before ? Can you follow Hindi well ?

BAPU

Y.M.
2nd July 1932

P. 61
17

Dear Dhuru,

I am writing to Gajanan about drawing. It requires some help from others. There must be more of practice.

I am writing slowly the Urdu copy book. Do you want the copy book or do you want to see the way how I write the copy book. If you want to see that I may tear off the pages I have written and send them to you. If you want a copy book it can be had even there.

BAPU

Y.M.
2nd July 1932

P. 61
18

Dear Gajanan,

Now you must have learnt to read Gujarati. Dhiru is keenly anxious to learn drawing. Others also would be prepared to learn it. If possible find some time for such students.

BAPU

Y. M.
2nd July 1932

P. 63
19

Dear Triveni,

Received your letter. You have given a good description. There is much mismanagement in hospitals and hence it is desirable that chaste women should take up the work there. So this is good by way of having some experience. If the mind becomes engrossed in the work the work is certainly such to which a life may be devoted.

BAPU

Y.M.
2nd July 1932

P. 63
20

Dear Liladhar,

The girls know about the privies. I had only played a joke. Narandas had written about Shanti. Let her remain with you for the present. Remove her stupidity with love. Do not be angry.

BAPU

2nd July 1932

P. 63
21

Dear Shanti,

This time your hand-writing is good. Write in the same day. It is good that during silent (prayers) you do not get sleep.

BAPU

Y.M.
2nd July 1932

P. 63
22

Dear Lakshmi—Borivali,

My hand pains while doing certain work. It is not paralysis. There is no cause for anxiety. Rest is the chief remedy.

Vithaldas had written to me as regards eczema. Radium must be regarded to have been efficacious.

Do send me your daily work.

Blessings from BAPU

Y.M.,
2nd July 1932

P. 65
23

Brother Kanaiyalal,

- (1) Who believes in "me".
- (2) She has been freed from love and hate.
- (3) Untruthfulness.
- (4) Ahimsa.
- (5) Complete absence of love and hate.
- (6) Untruthful conduct.
- (7) Ahimsa.

BAPU

P. 67
24

Translation of letters marked 24-32 tagged together.

Dear Babalbhai,

Devotion means intense study of God in the mind. God means, all humanity in one form. Hence, a man who does service to humanity out of regard, for God is a devotee. You have rightly interpreted " whatever you do, do it for my sake ". The meaning of the second verse is also appropriate. In the suppression of inclinations of the mind, the observance of the rules, etc., regarding restraint of senses is the principal thing. The one and the same idea is shown in two ways, viz. " Whatever you do, do it for my sake " and " renounce the fruit of your actions ". People of one temperament will understand the first clause immediately, others, the second. There is nothing so serious, as you think with regard to my hand. It aches only when it is used in a particular manner. The health of Kakasaheb is improving. You should not be anxious as you find life totally different on reading every

verse, but you should remove the blunders firmly and courageously. Let there be heaps of blunders. While making attempts a time will come when all the blunders will be removed all at a time. But if you give up the attempt looking at the mountain, the mountain will go on growing.

BAPU

Y.M.
1st July 1932

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25

YERAVDA MANDIR
3rd June 1932

Dear Parasram,

Your letter to hand. I do not see any fault in that you give encouragement to girls in writing letters in Hindi and correcting their language. Only you should take care that the girls do not take down whatever you speak, and do not think out the sentences themselves. They must first make an attempt. If that is not the case, their handwriting only will improve and not their language. The questions must occur to them also. There is not a rule that questions must be asked. Let them write about whatever they may have newly learnt, seen, or may have experienced, happiness or misery, during the week or whatever impression may have been left on their mind about events that have happened. This involves more labour for you, but this you can teach them at the time you give them lessons in Hindi. I learnt that Pushpa has been taking interest in her work and aspires to go forward.

BAPU

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26

YERAVDA MANDIR
30th June 1932

Dear Bhau,

Jamnalalji has sent here three copies of " Gita ". Constipation must be removed. If necessary consult Dr. Talwalkar about it. Its effect may be very little, but in due course, it will certainly grow worse. I may show you one remedy which proved effective in my case. You are to try it for two or three days and if you do not find it advantageous, you may give it up. Cook *Tandulja* or *Palak Bhaji*, and take it twice or thrice a day taking nothing else. There is the likelihood of this doing good to you. As soon as you get motions, you should start taking ordinary food. Immediate and unfailing antedote for half-headache, is earth poultice. You go to sleep binding it on the head. In spite of that, if you get an attack during day time, you should bind it on the head and lie down as long as it remains on the head.

It is my belief that the picture of God lying on the serpent Shesha is suggestive of some mysterious meaning ; and no obstacle comes in the way of doing an alert action. The meaning of " Atandrita" i.e. " vigilant" occurring in this particular verse is that there is always consciousness while every act is being done. There is no idleness while an act is being done. But it does not mean that work is being done all the twenty-four hours. Thus God is compared to the natural man and this verse contains the same comparison. Otherwise, he is not vigilant, he does not even go to sleep, he does not work and it is not that he does not work. That is it is not possible in any case to compare Him with anything. After saying this I myself interpret " *Shesh Shayin* " i.e. *One lying on the serpent Shesh (God)* to mean that God is so fearless that he can sleep on the lap of a serpent without any anxiety. This meaning is enough for my own satisfaction ; and I derive strength from it. That is to say that if we become completely non-violent, we would not have any fear in spite of our remaining by the side of a serpent, and more than that this serpent will not fear us.

BAPU

P. 73

27

Dear Vidya,

I feel gratified that you have reached Quetta. Take the fullest advantage of the whatever there and walk as far as you can. Give me an account of the scenery and climate. Who are the people living there ?

What you write is indeed true. If the intention is good the mind is pleased. May your pleasure go on increasing and remain permanent.

Please let me know if you have any information about Anand. How do you pass your time there ?

Blessings from,
BAPU

Yeravda Mandir
2nd July 1932

P. 75

28

YERAVDA MANDIR
29th June 1932

Dear Sumangal,

Your letter to hand. Your arguments with regard to rape are convincing. The circumstances in which it is thought that it is the duty of a woman to commit suicide, in the same circumstances, it should be duty of a guardian to do the same when any one comes to plunder the property entrusted to his

care. But such duty must by itself appeal to him or her. Neither I nor you have a right to say that a woman, who does not like to commit suicide in order to prevent herself from being raped, has committed an unrighteous act. On the contrary, neither I nor you, have a right to say that a man who lost his life in protecting property entrusted to his care, has necessarily done a righteous act. Opinion can be expressed after knowing what kind of sentiments the individuals entertained at the time. While thus giving an opinion judiciously my belief is that a woman, if she has the courage, would be prepared to die in order to save herself from being raped ; and so, I would certainly encourage a woman to die while talking to her ; and I would explain to her that it is easy to give up life if one has the will ; because many women believe that if there is not a disinterested person to protect them or that if they do not learn how to make use of a dagger or a rifle, etc., there is no recourse left to them save that of submitting to the tyrant. To such a woman, I would certainly say that there is no need for her to depend upon (the use) of other's weapons, also that there is no need for her to make use of a dagger or a pistol herself. Her chastity alone will protect her, but if this does not happen, she can commit suicide instead of making use of a dagger, etc. There is no need for her to believe herself to be weak or devoid of strength.

P. 77

Now I come to questions of academic interest, I had understood your questions in the manner in which you had written and I term such questions as questions of academic interests. A few questions of this sort can be asked ; but it would be better if no questions of academic interest are asked. You should never form the habit of asking such questions. One who forms this habit commits an offence of the kind committed by one who gets the geometrical deductions solved by a professor of Geometry. One who gets deductions solved in this manner, never knows Geometry well. The same is the fate of one who gets various questions arising out of certain principles, solved through others. But with regard to questions arising from principles of morality, there is a great flaw in its very origin. That is to say, we shall never come across an incident in actual life analogous to that we might have instanced. If there is the slightest difference between the imaginary incident and the one which has actually happened, there is the possibility of arriving at quite a different solution in each case, and hence only, I had warned you that you should not form the habit of solving academic questions in order to be prepared for eventualities so long as they do not form a part of your actual experience. By doing so, the solution of such academic questions, will possibly be a hindrance instead of helping you at the critical moment. This habit, instead of sharpening, mars the intellect of a man. Such talent becomes unfit for doing any original work. The better course is that you should fully understand and digest the original principle ; and allow the mistakes

to be committed while applying them in our life or in that of our people. You will learn through them. But the solution of academic questions on these principles should not be demanded from those who know more than ourselves for the sake of guarding oneself against eventualities. By so doing, harm is caused to self-reliance. It seems that through such experience only, the author of the Gita, has written the 10th verse of the 10th chapter. Is it not written in that verse by God that 'to these, ever, harmonious, worshipping in love, I give the Yoga of discrimination at the critical time'. Here make use of the word 'truth' in place of the word 'God', and the meaning will be entirely clear. Now you must have understood what I meant to say. I am not tired of your questions of academic interest, but it is feared that it will do you harm, if I encourage you to ask me such questions, there is no gain at all, such is my belief. Take for example, your instance of rape. Although I have given one reply to this academic question, yet, if there takes place a similar incident, I would give quite a different answer and would adequately substantiate it also. It is quite possible that I would point out the difference between the actual and the imaginary incidents also. I write all this to you from the experience I got through my companions. I will not elaborate this subject any more.

I am glad to learn that your health has improved now.

Blessings from BAPU

P. 81

29

Dear Mani,

Your letter to hand. You must have received my message. You thought of sending slivers and hence you obtained the merit of sending the slivers. You have done well in not sending them. There are no useless slivers here now. The slivers which are here, are more than enough. All of them have been prepared by Mahadev. They are being added to for the last two months. Mahadev mostly makes use of slivers sent by Chhakaddas, because the cotton from which they are prepared is of the best kind and also they are very carefully prepared. I can never spin as fine as Mahadev does on the Magan-spinning-wheel. It is ever my opinion that it is proper that one should not use the yarn of the Yadnya for his own use. If any one remains careless while spinning for the Yadnya, his examination is over and he fails. The yarn of the Yadnya must be spun with the greatest possible care. It is the best course, if one gives away whatever is spun by him and makes use of good or bad yarn that falls to his lot. But if he has not the courage to do that, he must in the end spin for half an hour or an hour or at least give any 160 yards of yarn free in the Yadnya.

I clearly understand that you like the Samajik (common) prayers. Because your prayers have commenced with Samajik. But you must offer prayers alone also.

Let it be for a minute only. As a last recourse, the repetition of the name of God must be continued in the mind. And this will not be the case if the habit of offering prayers in solitude is not formed. Solitary prayers can be offered while going to sleep, taking a bath, eating, or doing any work. Hence it is not a burden to any one. On the contrary, the mind is and should be eased. If such is not the experience one should understand that the prayer is artificial.

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The problem of Dahyabhai is a hard one. But he is a very reasonable man, and hence he will come round by himself. Nobody need guide him in that respect. If he desires to marry again, there is nobody to stop him. If he does not want to marry at all, there is nobody to entice him. Strangers will certainly harass him. Dahyabhai will be a match for them. You will certainly be a match for them. I have stopped meeting with people. It causes annoyance at such times. But our duty lies in suffering such things. The elbow of the left arm aches while making use of it in a certain manner. For the last one month, the servant washes the clothes. I use jail utensils. These utensils are not shining. But they are kept clean. You preserve your health. And do write to me.

Blessings from BAPU

Y. M.
2nd July 1932

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30

Dear Prema,

I should say that you are now three years old. What you say is true. When I took you from Bombay along with me, I had doubts as to whether you would pull on (in the Ashram). But not so much you think, because, you stood by your word. And I have no doubts regarding one who stands by his word. I do not remember as to whether there was any sarcasm in my word. But I was not sure that you would have stayed so long as you have done. I remember my state of mind, when you came. I certainly wish that you should pass your whole life as you have passed these years (in the Ashram), and that too, not labouring under uncertainty and without making any effort but by making a determination knowing—firmly believing— that you belong to the Ashram and Ashram is yours. But I should not

insist on this. I can only wish for it. You cannot arrive at a decision so long as you do not naturally feel that the Ashram is yours. I have only expressed my desire to you.

So far regarding your Ashram birth (i.e. life in the Ashram). Your second birthday falls on July 13. And you must get this letter on or about the 8th instant. My blessings are always there for you. May your highest desires be fulfilled. You are certainly making efforts in that direction ; and hence I have no doubts. So much life and so much health are also simultaneously needed. I believe that you will have that also. But all these three things do not ultimately depend upon you or me. Everything has been consigned to Him. He may do as He wills. And whatever he does must always be good. You send me your account of the 13th instant. You write to me what resolve you have made on that day. Don't you know that I suggest to all to make some new resolve on a birthday ?

Do not put any trust in what is said by astrologers. Do not even think of them. Even if what they say prove true, yet there is no gain from knowing it. Harm decidedly comes. You feel hot there, while here it is beautifully cool. There is want of rain.

From among the Urdu books, send me early, all books on biography of the prophet you find, two parts of Ahvale Sahaba, Khulna-E-Reshdin and English-Urdu and Urdu-English dictionaries. If they are sent to Dahyabhai at Bombay, he will bring them here on Saturday. All the quarters must be regularly cleaned on a particular day. All the goods must be shifted. Time must be set apart for that.

It is our duty to make an effort to bring to perfection anything which appears to be imperfect whether it be an individual, society or an institution. If demerits preponderate over merits, it is our duty to renounce—non-cooperative with them. This is an eternal truth. I had referred to it. By this reference, I have not advised you to leave the Ashram or anything else. I have only showed to you what is believed to be the duty of human beings in certain circumstances.

In Bengal, hundreds of goats and lambs are being slaughtered in broad day light and offered to Kali Mata in Calcutta every day. I have been praying to God to grant me fitness to put a stop to it. Did you not know this ? I have known that a man compares himself with Gopi. I do not see anything wrong in it if it is done out of devotion. All are weak (lit, women) before God.

In swaraj, people will certainly come out to explore the highest peak of the Himalayas and the North Pole. I believe that ordinary knowledge of Physical science is advantageous. I have not lost anything through my

experiments on diet. These have been continued for eight years as also for seven days. Dhurandhar has gone to Nasik. There is decidedly an advantage in Mono leaving the institution.

BAPU

30th June 1932.

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31

Dear Narandas,

Your post received today. It is seven days since (I began taking) milk and fruit. I do not see any effect thereof on the hand. Perhaps there may not be any effect. I cannot say that this will suit me. Really speaking the experiment of almonds, bread and vegetable suited me. But for the present I shall continue milk. I am a little afraid of constipation. If necessary I shall add some vegetable. There is nothing to be anxious about this. What you write about Sitalasahaya is true. His letter is discourteous, and is written in anger. If the expense goes higher he should send detailed account, and if the account is correct there is no objection to pay him more. That is, instead of independently limiting the amount to Rs. 60, it seems proper to me that an account should be asked for before sending him more money. Otherwise I have written in more detail by yesterday's post and so I do not write here more. There is nothing to write about the Giri family. If Dhiru and Kusum take less of bodily exertion and can take milk their weight will increase. Do you receive any letters from Nirmala Joshi ? She may have information about Lilabehn, do you know her address ?

As regards Tites do as you deem proper. If his work is satisfactory and if his needs are as he asks for it may perhaps be proper to pay him as he demands. It is natural that in the case of those who had joined the party but are not at present in the party but are doing work, their dependents should expect something. Hence it may perhaps be injustice if the letter of their oath is adhered to. Parnerkar's action must be considered to be extremely insolent. It is not proper that one should go away without permission and send a message. Yet his object is good. I do not desire to find fault with him as his mind has become too weak. His self-denial is good; and hence if you think it proper to send something to his mother do so. I can see that on principle of justice nothing can be given. Many a time dry justice takes the form of injustice. It is difficult to dive deep into a man's heart and so whenever any matter concerning money crops up I am always inclined towards making concessions as far as possible. Where are Shamrao and Pratap at present ? It is enough if Father Elwin is satisfied. He cannot expect minute care from Mirabehn and we cannot cope with it. Hardly any one else can be so keenly observant as Mirabehn is in taking care of the person whom she likes. No one can compete with her.

It is good that the work in connection with Imam Sahib's grave has been done out and out. You must have seen what I had written to Jivram about Annapurna. As you write Sharatchandra Patnayak is an appropriate person. If he marries Annapurna he must be doing so predominantly out of a feeling of obligation. If Bhai Jivram selected him and Annapurna is willing, and Sharatchandra in spite of his knowing—Annapurna's whole history undertakes to marry her my blessings be on them. He deserves congratulations. You must be acknowledging receipt of the various translations of biography that have been received. Kesu spins 50 counts cotton with the speed of 350 revolutions. I consider this a good speed. On which spinning wheel does she spin ? The buildings where the goods are stocked must be opened at certain intervals. In such big institutions it is a custom to put up dates on buildings to show on which date it was last cleaned and on which it is to be cleaned next so that even though such work is or is not included in the list of work to be done in future, yet as the date is there and as one becomes habituated to note it if persons are appointed for particular work the work will be done without a strain on memory. Besides slivers, spindles, strings and *chamarkhans* held to spin cotton of lower counts. From the best of sliver 50 counts cannot be spun on the string and spindle attached to the Magan Rentia. The spinning wheel on which the Andhra women spin 80 counts has a very delicate spindle, thin like an umbrella rib and short. The string is also very thin and hence these women are able to spin such lowest counts. From this point of view examine your spindle and string. My own experience is that such fine cotton cannot be spun with to much ease on any spinning wheel as can be easily spun on the Gandiva, and the chief reason for this is that the Gandiva string is extremely fine. From observation I can say such string will not do for a standing spinning wheel. Again the control that we have on the Gandiva wheel can never be had on a standing spinning wheel. And for a similar reason we cannot afford to have so delicate a holder on any other spinning wheel as we can do a Gandiva. We must master the art of spinning the finest cotton and from this point of view those who have more experience than I have, should experiment on various wheels and ascertain facts.

I have gone through your balance sheet. I have written at length in my past letters and so this time nothing special remains to write. Henceforward it is not necessary to send the review every week. After studying the statistics if you make any changes write to me about them. Write to me if you receive further statistics and also if you are inclined to pass any remarks. I shall preserve the statement you have sent and so if you write anything in reference to it I shall be able to follow. As for myself there is much to learn from this and to think a good deal. You have done well in giving particulars about (certain) persons.

I find from Panditji's letter that you are holding silent prayers for five minutes in the morning. If you find any good effect in this let it be continued for even five minutes. But my suggestion was in regard to the evening prayers. After working the whole day men may have come (to the prayers) and there must be some time before concentration takes place. If there is silence for five minutes it will help much in concentrating attention. Contrary is the case in regard to the morning prayers and so from that point of view there may be no need of observing silence. Panditji thinks that many utilise these five minutes in dozing. This is my analysis of these five minutes on outward appearance. Thinking internally it is good if as much time as possible can be included in silent prayers. But this must be for those who can put up with it. Do not interpret this to mean that the morning silent prayers should be abandoned. It is apparent that a good thing that has been begun should not be given up at an early date. Panditji's experience may be your experience and you may be inclined to hold silent prayers for one minute instead of five, but I desired that silent prayers should be held at both the times for five minutes. If you have so understood me you can change (the arrangement) in the morning. This my writing goes to the extent of granting this concession.

List of letters

1.	Mangala.	17.	Dhiru.
2.	Male and female children.	18.	Gajanan.
3.	Pushpa.	19.	Triveni.
4.	Jekore.	20.	Liladhar.
5.	Sharda.	21.	Shanti.
6.	Ananda.	22.	Lakshmi.
7.	Kusum (senior).	23.	Kanaiyalal.
8.	Indu.	24.	Babalbhai.
9.	Madhavlal.	25.	Parasram.
10.	Bhagwanji.	26.	Bhau.
11.	Vanmala.	27.	Vidya.
12.	Panditji.	28.	Sumangal.
13.	Punjabhai.	29.	Mani.
14.	Shamal.	30.	Prema.
15.	Dudhibehn.	31.	Narandas.
16.	Siddhimati.	32.	How to observe truthfulness.

There is a reference in Panditji's letter and Mahadev also raises the point that the children do not get sufficient sleep. They must get at least eight hours undisturbed (sleep). This can be done only if they go to bed at 7-30 (p.m.). That is if we make them get up at 3-30 (a.m.) they ought to have eight hours as I think. It is desirable that elderly persons should also have so much rest. A remedy for this is that the evening prayers should be

begun at 7-00 (p.m.) and be finished at 7-30 (p.m.) really speaking at 7-20. But having regard to the fact that half an hour may be devoted to prayers they may begin at 6-50 (p.m.), or the bell should be rung at 4-00 (a.m.) and the prayers begun at 4-30 (a.m.). Other course is that the prayers for children should be held separately. Prayers are also held when their classes begin. We may remain satisfied with this. They must be habituated to offer prayers once or twice. The (morning) prayers they may offer when they get up. The time for getting up for all cannot be later than 4-00 (a.m.) and the prayers should not be held later than 4-30. The children must get eight hours. Considering these two propositions as being unavoidable you may effect any changes as you all may consider proper. You should consider the point, who should be regarded as children. Those who wish to be included among children and who may be considered to be children according to their wish. For these there should be a rule that they would be included among children at the most for one year. Those who are ill are exempted from the morning prayers. Those who are like Indu must be exempted whether they like it or not, i.e. those whose weight is going down should not be burdened (with the obligation) to get up early in the morning. It is not good that Indu does not get sleep till 10-00 (p.m.). Suppose her cot is placed by your side in the open she would not but get sleep. Although she may be exempted from the morning prayers yet she must be habituated to go to bed early. After considering all things effect such changes as you deem proper.

Samal seems to be a little confused. I have asked him to talk to you. But do not wait for his coming, send for him and ask him.

There is a letter from Manjula. She writes to say that her going to the Ashram has been postponed. Perhaps you may have received a letter. She does not give any reason (for her so doing).

My left arm is what it is. It seems that with passage of time it will be cured by mere rest. There is no cause to be anxious about it. I have been taking milk under pressure from the Superintendent. But I do not see any particular advantage in that. But for the present I adhere to that (course). With it I do not take a loaf but a bread and vegetable once a time. At present there is the grape season at Karachi and so Lalvani has been sending grapes which also I am taking. My weight is 104 lb.

As regards yarn if you see Shardabehn you may get Yadna yarn from the sisters. Means must be found out if possible, to remedy the mistake regarding the yarn.

How do Jamna and Purshottam pass their time in Ranavava ? Write to me if you know of their daily work.

Tell Ba that I have received only one letter. Does she receive my letters ?

BAPU

4th July 1932

It seems all have not been supplied with copies of what I had written about some rules for the Ashram and prayers. Send me a copy thereof. Send me Mahadev's large French dictionary which is in his cupboard and Urdu biography along with the Urdu books for which I have written to Prema. Mahadev asks why Nirmala (Foi) has become tired of writing? Durga has not written about money and her health. Ask her to write in Mahadev's letter. The bread I take is prepared by Mahadev.

BAPU

32

How to observe Truth ?

One should think of truth just as one thinks about *ahimsa* (non-violence). We cannot accomplish truth by forgetting what is happening daily before our eyes and plunging ourselves in (the solution of) a problem, whether untruth can be told for the sake of saving a cow. Plunging ourselves thus in deep waters is a way to conceal truth. If we observe truth in the case of problems that present before us daily, we will come to know by ourselves what is to be done in critical times.

Every one without exception has to look to his own self from this point of view. Am I cheating anybody by my thought ? I am cheating if believing to be a bad person I show him off as a good one. Am I trying to show that I possess such merits which are not in me with a desire that I may be called a great or virtuous person? Am I indulging in exaggerations while speaking ? Am I concealing faults committed by me from those before whom I ought to have admitted them ? Am I misleading my companion or superior while replying to what they ask me ? Am I concealing what ought to have spoken out ? If I am doing anything of these, I am telling untruth. Thus, every one, by taking an account of this doings from himself daily, should improve his own self. Those, who are accustomed to tell the truth, who have reached a state in which they cannot utter a falsehood, may not take an account in this manner from themselves. But those in whom there is the least particle of untruth or who can act truthfully only after making an effort, should answer daily to themselves the very question referred to above or some such questions which occur to them. One who acts thus even for a month, will clearly see the change effected in himself.

BAPU

Y.M.

Sunday, 3rd July 1932

Translation of postcard marked 4 in red chalk

Dear Manjula,

Your letter to hand. I have learnt that you are not going to the Ashram for the present. You go there, whenever it is possible for you to go. Write your daily time-table. Devdas has been convalescing now. You must be getting letters from Maganlal.

Blessings from
BAPU

Y.M.
2nd July 1932

Address—

Shrimati Manjulabehn,
Sheth Nautamlal Bhagwan Mehta's House,
Jetpur, Kathiawar.

Translation of postcard marked 5 in red chalk

YERAVDA MANDIR
3rd July 1932

Brother Dinkar,

Your letter to hand. I have stopped all visits as the visit of Mirabehn has been disallowed. Looking to your weight, it can be considered a great improvement (in your health). Nothing can be done about sanatorium from here. I have received here a book named "Vishva Shanti", i.e., World Peace. Mahadev and myself have glanced through it. I cannot know anything about its good or bad points, because, really I have not in me the power to appraise poetry. I have not been able to develop that taste. Doctors believe that there is nothing else except that my hand has been tired out; hence I am giving it rest. I have written by mistake that Mahadev has gone through "Vishva Shanti". He has not read it.

Blessings from
BAPU

Translation of postcard marked 6 in red chalk

Dear Radhika,

Your letter to hand. As Premkuver is involved in great difficulties, there is little possibility of her coming there. Hence, are you mother and daughter only there ? Who does the shopping, etc. ? It does not seem that any of the male members are there. Looking to the conveniences of that place,

there may not be any need of them. How much do you spend ? Have you kept any account ? Is there pipe water ? Is there any news about Rupi again? It seems that you have made good progress.

Blessings from
BAPU

Y. M.
2nd July 1932

Address—
Shrimati Radhabehn Gandhi,
Block A, Bhatia Sanatorium,
Deolali, G. I. P. Rly.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 11]

Translation of a letter addressed to Fulchand

YERAVDA MANDIR
3rd July 1932

Brother Fulchand,

I received today your letter, dated 31st May 1932, and Raojibhai's letter, dated 10th June 1932. We all are gratified to receive them. Fifteen lines have been completely scratched off from your present letter. If possible, tell the person in whose hands all these letter go or the head to show you anything he may deem fit to omit so that you may be ready to write out another letter. If this is done, the context in the letter may not be broken as is done (here). Tell all those who are there that they should not expect or desire for an independent letter from me. Although there is no restriction for me as to the number of letters I should write, there must be a limit for me. So, I write as few letters as possible. Yet I do reply to letters from associates in any jail or write only to one associate where in one jail there are many of them. This serves the purpose of writing to all. But if any one has to write anything specially, he may certainly write, as, for instance, Raojibhai has done. The unprecedented opportunity which we have now got for introspection and study is not likely to recur every now and then. Hence it is desirable that every one should act so as to be able to give a good account for each moment and spend his time. Even a drop of water should not be wasted. Acting under the belief that anything that is in the country—it may be in the possession of any one—belongs to us we should protest it and use it. It is clear like lamp light that several purposes are served by so doing. Tell the children who are there that they may write to me if an opportunity occurs when they have to write to none else. It is surprising that the rains have not yet commenced here. Mostly there should be a good rain by this time. Fanners are in anxiety. Give the enclosed letter to Raojibhai, that is, the following relates to him. I held conversations

with Sardar and we both have come to the conclusion that from here neither he nor we can express any opinion. As many things cannot be known without being present (on the spot), I have written to Maganbhai, that taking into account of all the surrounding circumstances he should do what he deems fit. I have written him a sufficiently long letter to this effect. I received your letter today and reply to it also today and so I have not made a moment's delay here. Raojibhai should be entirely free of all anxieties.

Blessings from,
BAPU

Translation of letter addressed to Kishorilal

YERAVDA MANDIR
1st July 1932

Dear Kishorilal,

I was waiting for your letter. I do not wish you to write to me making use of the occasion when it is necessary for you to write to anybody else. But do write when you can easily do so. Devdas was suffering from mild typhoid. But now he is entirely cured. I receive letters from him. He was well taken care of. He is getting books to read. Ramdas is here and is alright. Chhaganlal, Surendraji, Darbari and several others are with him. Quereshi is also there. Ramniklal, Kanti, Surendra, Vithal, Fulchand, Diwan Master and several others are in Visapur Jail. Jamnalal, Pyarelal, Vinoba, etc., are in Dhulia Jail. There Gita is being studied with great enthusiasm. Manilal, Sushila, Sita, Pragji all had an attack of the poisonous fever prevailing in Natal. But all have been saved. Pragji is not willing to undertake responsibility. So Manilal is engaged and it seems that he will not come. Gangaben, Tara, Mahalakshmi, Rama, Gangaben Jhaveri, Naniben, Bhaktiben, Shanta, Lilavati Asar, etc., are here. As doctors believe that my hand complain is due to exertion, I have been given rest to it. The complaint is not permanent. It recurs when a particular kind of work is done. As an experiment, it is fomented by electricity; but doctors here believe that rest is the only remedy for that part of the hand. It is not necessary even to direct a thought over it. I have been taking milk nearly for the last ten days. My weight is 104 lb. The reason for taking milk is that the Superintendent here is pressing for it. I did not think that it was essential. But as the weight was going down, I gave up my determination. I am working Prabhudas' *rentia* (spinning wheel) by foot and am drawing the thread with the right-hand. It is working well. Sardar and Mahadev are doing well. The nose complaint of Sardar is lying dormant for the present. The complaint in the leg-bone from which Mahadev was suffering was completely cured in a few days after he came here. Mahadev spins yarn of 40/50 counts. He is doing some carding work and reading, of course, in addition to what he has to write for me. Sardar is reading and adding to the wealth of the

world by making envelopes from useless Badami Paper. As we do not differentiate between the Government and other property, we hold the so-called Government property to be ours and make a careful use of everything. Such trouble as you infer should not arise from the working of the Gandiv *rentia*. Its wheel should work without the least trouble. It requires only a gentle push. But if you believe that though the wheel of the Gandiv *rentia* you have been working is turning very lightly, yet your wrist is aching, then you should work a *rentia* with a perpendicular wheel even for the sake of removing your doubt. That your weight is increasing can indeed be regarded as good news. The diagnosis of the doctor about the asthma may be correct and if two grains of quinine every day cures the trouble, it should be regarded to be very good.

I had written on prayers and on a subject like that of the regulations to be observed by a Satyagrahi; but not on this subject. However, I have not got a copy of the same. But as you refer to it, I shall call for it and correct errors in it and send it to you, if possible. It will not be regarded, I feel confident, as a letter. There is indeed pressure of work in the Ashram. Shankarbhai writes the Ashram letter when he gets leisure. Several essential things are left out in it. I have kept up the idea of reading your book carefully, but believing that I have ample time I do not turn to it, leaving aside what I have been reading at present. You have done well in going through the Gita again. If you send it here, I will get it. I do not desire to recommend you to read anything special. I do not believe that you have read less. My own reading can indeed be regarded as being quite odd. I have been reading Urdu at present. As my ignorance on currency is unpardonable, I have been making some progress in the subject. The spirit of service lies behind both of these and submitting to this spirit though I can be regarded to be on the eve of death, I aspire to have a good knowledge of Tamil which has been left incomplete and from this point of view I had begun to read Bengali and Marathi, and I shall not be surprised if I plunge into their study if a good time is passed here. If your mind is working in any such direction and if your desire to know any new language, do not fail to do so. We had this aspiration about languages when the *Ashram* was established. It has not weakened at all so far as I am concerned. But I do not desire to draw you under this temptation. The one necessity which I see for all of us is that we should think on what we have read, digest it and make it a feature of our life. From this view-point I have gone even to the length of advising Bhagwanji to give up (the reading of) Gita and writings of Raichandbhai and to remain engaged in his own work and think over it alone. Because I found that he had crammed much from the "Anasakti Yoga" and the writings of Raichandbhai, but he was unable to make the right use of all these. His heart, I believe, is clean, but his intellect defeats him, he indulges in various thoughts and at last he remains where he is. My writing appears to have produced a deep effect on him

and he is appeased, whatever may be the result of this advice. But it has become clear to me from several experiences that the line of thought behind it is quite correct. Accordingly I cannot think of recommending the reading of religious books to persons like you. I agree to a certain extent with the realisation by you of defects in you. I have, however, marked many times that you are in the habit of entering into discussions. You appear to have taken an exaggerated view of this defect in your letter. I see no reason for it. But I am, indeed, of opinion that much of the discussion can be curtailed. This does not mean that you should not reply to what one asks you. If one does not ask a man like you who one will ask ? It is one thing to give to an inquisitive that one can out of what he had and to enter into discussion is quite a different matter. Do not be confused by interpreting these observations of mine in an unwarranted manner. Do not uselessly reprove yourself also after deep introspection. My support is not intended to magnify the defects you have seen, but is meant to explain their proportion. In order to live with ease with persons of queer nature silence is indeed greatly essential. We must understand that we have not known religion until we are able to maintain calmness though we live in society.

Imitation of Christ is a treasure of experience of a real man. So it cannot but produce effect. I will tell you how I was induced to study the sky. When I accidentally found that it had become for me a means of seeing God. I looked at it at once. Kaka was with me. He induced me much. But my mind turned me aside from it. "When I got leisure from other work I would do it" was the feeling. In 1922 when I was here, I had collected books on the subject. At that time also, I was deferring this study for one reason or another. Shankarlal gradually studied the subject himself. I was induced several times to see Cassiopeia. After seeing a little I engaged myself again in my work. But this time thoughts came to me suddenly that the sight of the sky was equivalent to a valuable religious association. The stars' were silently talking with us. I do not wish to dilate upon all these thoughts. In short what I want to say is that when everything becomes a religious lesson for me, then only I dive into it, now I cannot come out of it.

As much time has passed, I do not lengthen the letter now. If this letter will reach you safely, I will write again further.

Blessings from
BAPU

Translation of a letter to Anandanand

YERAVDA MANDIR
1st July 1932

Brother Anandanand,

You made me wait for a long time. Sardar asked me several times. Why the Swami's letter is still not received. We knew that it was not

received. But what can you do! Even if the reason is known, one does hope for a thing which one ardently desires. You will receive this letter or it will come back to me. Many of those who have come in contact with me had similar experience about separation as you have got though I am near you. You are to draw as much satisfaction therefrom as you can. Kallenbeck had laid down a fine standard. His experience was that when he first came in contact with me, he met me daily and took as much of my time as he could; when we came in very close contact and began to live together at night, he had hardly time to talk with me though we lived, ate and slept together. While returning home from office there were always some people talking with him. So, that became a matter of quarrel between us. He applied the rule of three and came to the conclusion that it was his experience that the more one came into contact with me, the more he remained away from me. I supported his statement and added : " You have come near me to the extent you have understood me. Hence you have no right to take my time now and I have also no time to spare for you, leaving aside those who have yet to know me." And on this understanding our affairs went on. Is it not that there is some truth underlying such experience, viz., in case of associates who are closely united with one another there remains nothing to make inquiries about. If they do so they may be said to fail to that extent in their general duty. And if this is true, associates like you who are near, though living at a distance, have no reason to feel sorrowful about. I did know that your weight had gone down, but I had no fears about your health. " Magan *rentia* " is not a modified or improved form of " Gandiv *rentia*". It is a distinct, useful and excellent discovery made by Prabhudas. Its wheel can be worked by foot instead of hand, and so both the hands being free, two spindles can be worked simultaneously. Hence he who becomes expert in working it can without doubt spin one and a half times, if not double, of what he can do on one spindle *rentia*. I did want to work the *rentia* to satisfy Prabhudas. In the mean time the doctors here prohibited me from drawing the yarn or working the wheel with the left hand. So, there was two-fold reason for me to work the Prabhudas *rentia*. As Maganlal encouraged the making of that *rentia* and contributed largely to the scientific side of it, it has been named " Magan *rentia* ". I have been spinning on it at present. The speed has reached about 140 threads. It will still go up. From the above remarks I hope, you have understood that I have been spinning only on one spindle because I am giving complete rest to the left hand, draw the thread with the right.

The yarn is of 19 count. There is nothing to be feared about the hand. When it is used in doing a particular kind of work, the elbow is acting and doctors persistently believe that the complaint is not due to any internal cause, but it is due to an external cause, viz., due to the drawing of thread daily. So, they are of opinion that by giving rest to the muscles the complaint

will subside by itself. Despite this, that part is treated by violet rays. Hence there remains no cause for anxiety. My weight has failed to go up to 112 lb. It has not exceeded 106¹/₂ lb. I have been taking milk for the last about ten days under pressure from the Superintendent. I am yet unable to say that I have benefited by it. My present weight is 104 lb. Sardar is doing well. His weight may be said to be the same as it was when he came (here). It can be said that the nose complaint is under slight control. The weight of Mahadev is also good. His health is excellent. Mahadev had been spinning 840 yards of yarn of No. 45 to 50 up to the day before yesterday. He spent about five hours daily on it. As he also felt the effects of exertion, he spins half the amount of yarn for the last two days and is doing carding work, of course, in addition. I spin 200 yards for yarn. I study Urdu, astronomy and books on currency and write the history of the Ashram when I get time. Mahadev is reading on stray subjects. He has of course in addition to write for me. Now the spinning having been reduced, he may, perhaps, begin to write something. Sardar produces wealth from dust, in other words, he has been making envelopes from waste paper of badami and other colours. If I were to give you a description of papers, you will laugh considerably. To whomsoever we have to write a letter, we make use of these envelopes. As we do not differentiate between Government and our money, we save every cowrie where possible. The making of envelopes is undoubtedly an addition to the wealth of India or that of the world, however small it may be keeping in mind that everything that is used as Government property is our property, we make use of it. Sardar is spending time also in reading and has thought of acquiring working knowledge of Sanskrit. He has also called for Sanskrit Pathmala by Satavalekar and intends side by side to be well-versed in Hindi too. This is the account of our work. Our family consists of a cat and her two pups. Though their names are not entered in the history ticket, they share a litde of milk, etc.

I have completed reading Roland's books on Ramkrishna and Vivekanand. I had always reverence for Ramkrishna. I had read little about him. But as I had heard several things (about him) from his devotees, that feeling had sprung up. I do not say with certainty that Roland's books have added to it. In fact Roland's both the books are meant for westerners. I will not say that we can derive nothing from these books. I have derived very little information. The thinks which had influenced me are also to be found in Roland's books. The additional matter which it contains has not added to the impression. It did not appear to me that Vivekanand was so much a devotee as Ramkrishna. Vivekanand's love was great. He was full of sympathy and used to be carried away by sympathy. It was gold for his knowledge. The distinction which he makes between religion and politics was not correct. But it is no use criticising such a great man and we can criticise any one whom we wish to criticise. Our duty lies in learning anything we can from (the lives of) such persons. As Tulsidas' couplets on

materialism and spiritualism have produced a deep impression on my life, I do not like to criticise. But as I know that you will wish to know if I have to offer anything by way of criticism, I have written this much. I have no doubt that Vivekanand was a great devotee. We have clearly seen that he gave his life for anything he considered to be truth. When I went to see the Bellur Math in 1901, I desired to see Vivekanand also. But the Swami of the Math informed me that he was ill and resided in the city and no one could see him. I was then disappointed. My devotion had saved me from many difficulties. At that time there was not a single notable person whom I did not run up to see with feelings of respect and used to go to most of the places on foot on the long roads in Calcutta. Devotion inspires all this. I had no desire to save money though this is also in my nature.

Respects from all three of us to Abdulla Sheth, Jabir Ali, Soman, Gokulbhai, Vishwanath and all others. I hope you will admit now that I have written more at length than you should have wished.

Blessings from,
BAPU

Translation of the Hindi accompaniment in cover marked 1 addressed to Smt. Lakshmi, C/o Gandhi Ashram, Tiruchengodu, South India.

Daughter Lakshmi,

If Devdas had not sent me a wire from where could I have got intimation of Papa's condition ? I hope you are at present working like a brave women Please let me have all information about Papa. I have written a letter for Papa and I am sending it along with this. Now Anna must have come to the Ashram. Tell him to write to me.

Do not spoil your health by worrying. Fear of death and sorrow should be abandoned altogether. Why should there be pain and fear for a thing which is inevitable for every human being ? It is ignorance to regard death as a punishment from God. Death is a present to man from God.

I expect a long letter from you.

Blessings from,
BAPU

7th July 1932

Translation of the Urdu letter contained in cover No. 2. It is addressed to Raihana, C/o Abbas Sahib, Baroda.

My Dear Daughter Raihana,

I have not received any letter from you this week. The *bhajan* (song) and the *ghazal* (ode) which you have sent me, have been thoroughly read by

me. Both are good. I have now understood them fully. There was (at first) some difficulty in understanding the *bhajan* and similarly there was some difficulty in understanding the *ghazal* because it contained new words. But I thoroughly understood them after reading them over two or three times. The *ghazal* is very good. " Zafar " is perhaps the nom-de-plume of Bahadur Shah Badshah. Is it not so ? Continue to send me some more *ghazals* of this type. You wrote to me that you would send me a book for me. If you have forgotten your promise then remember it now and send some book when you get it. At present I am reading the books published by the Jama-e-Millia (of Delhi). All have been written in good taste. Two of the books were dramas. The book I am reading at present, contains stories like the one headed " Kimyagar " (Al-chemist). Have you seen these books ? Convey my respect to (your) father and mother. I have got some work for you. This may be entrusted to Kamal. I am waiting for Hamida's letter. Sardar Kaka is still reading Amir Ali's book. Rains have sent in now. People were anxious about them. Weather has become fairly cool. Hope Pasabhai's sister will be all right.

Following is the post script in Gujarati : In this not only the spelling mistakes but grammar mistakes also are to be corrected. The Urdu book that you send me should contain ordinary words, rules of grammar and spelling etc. If there is no such book you need not trouble yourself.

Blessings, etc., from,
BAPU

*Full translation of the postcard addressed to Zuhra Banu, C/o Dr. Ansari,
Delhi. It is numbered 3.*

My Dear Daughter Zuhra,

You will be surprised to read this letter. The reason for writing this is that now that Papa has been released, you may write to me about his health. Let me also know how much weight he has lost. What have you been doing all these days? Sardar Vallabhbhai and Mahadev Desai are with me. We all are in perfect health. Convey our respects to (your) father and mother. May God give you long life and may He make you a great servant of the country! Write to me soon. If you write a beautiful hand, then alone I shall be able to read it.

Yeravda Temple

Dated the 7th July 1932.

MOHANDAS GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 159]

Dear Sister,

I was grieved to note from the papers that your mother was no more. My sympathies go out to you and Deepak in your sorrow. Sardar and Mahadev join me in sending you condolences.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

Y. C. P.
5th July 1932

To

Shrimati Saraladevi Chaudhari, Calcutta.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 163]

Translation of a letter marked I addressed to Bhai Parmanand, Lahore

Brother,

I have today learnt from a newspaper the news of your wife's death. When you were imprisoned in the Andamans I had come to know her and was much impressed by her simplicity. May God grant you peace and patience.

Yours,
(Sd.) MOHANDAS GANDHI

Yeravda Jail
6th July 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 165]

Translation of a letter marked 3 addressed to Mr. Ghanshyamdas Birla

YERAVDA MANDIR
6th July 1932

Dear Ghanshyamdas,

I have received today your letter of the 27th June. I have written a letter to you on the 29th June. I have written therein that the Khaddar has been received and have sent for those books which were found to be necessary after going through your book. Numerous questions arise out of the literature I have been studying. But I intend to ask whatever remains to ask only after I have studied the literature. At present I am reading anything and everything. This necessarily adds at least a little to my information. Now I am reading (Prof.) Shah's book. After that I shall begin Aiyar's books on Foreign Exchange which he has sent me.

At present along with Khaddar mills are working and will certainly continue to work for some time. In the end there is sure to be opposition between the two. Because our ideal is that every village should produce Khaddar. When this happens in every village there will remain no necessity for mills in India. But how it is possible for persons like you to do both the things together, and in order to show the truth the ideal should also be placed before the people. All those who indulge in criticism will continue to do so, for them there is no alternative.

As regards molasses, I have no complete knowledge. But I have some such idea that a mill will always be necessary for manufacturing sugar. Sugar cannot be manufactured easily in villages, nor are sugar canes produced in every village. Hence the manufacture of molasses cannot become universal. Perhaps there is some mistake on my part in this. Whatever it may be, when one and the same man can talk about mill and *Khaddar* he can certainly talk of molasses and (sugar) mill.

The more I study the science of money (?) the more I am confirmed in my view that in order to remove the poverty of the people whatever is suggested in these books is certainly not a true remedy. The remedy lies in devising a scheme in which income and expenditure will be automatically balanced and the regeneration of village industries is in such a scheme.

Owing to pressure from the Superintendent here I have begun taking milk along with *chapaty* and vegetable. Vegetable (I take) once and *chapaty* twice. I see that the improvement of body which was to be had in *roti*, almonds and vegetable is not to be had now. But now that I have begun milk, I will not leave it off soon. I shall see what the result is. At present Mr. Kripalani's sister's husband has been sending (me) grapes. These also I take.

Blessings from,
BAPU

P. 169

Translation of a letter marked 4 addressed to Devdas Gandhi, Prisoner

District Jail, Gorakhpur (U. P.)

Dear Devdas,

Just received your wire. Who can expect Vardhachari to die. There was still fear that Papa will pass away, but Vardhachari has passed away. Inscrutable are His ways. It is good that the God of Death does not renounce anybody's friendship. Sooner or later he shows his liking for all. I have wired to Papa as under : (*Wire in English). To Raja as under : (Wire in English).

I have sent wires as above.

*Page 1 of this note.

Raja will be shocked but his power of endurance is strong and so there need be no anxiety. Death as death produces very little impression on me. Whatever impresses me is in regard to the miseries suffered by relatives. What greater ignorance can there be than feeling pain of death ?

You must have received the letters I have sent. The letter which was thought to have been lost has been handed over to you. This information has been sent by your Superintendent to the Superintendent here. So your hunger for my letters must be satisfied.

We all three are happy. There is nothing new to write about I have already written to you that I have begun taking *roti* and milk.

Blessings from,
BAPU

Y.M.
5th July 1932

P. 171

Translation of a postcard marked 5 addressed to Mataprasad Gupta, Bazar, Makandraganj, Pratapgarh.

(U.P.)

Brother Mataprasadji,

Received your letter as well as the book. Prisoners are prohibited from giving their opinions in regard to books. Therefore please excuse (me). Moreover, I am not entitled to express an opinion on a book on the culinary art, and I cannot express one.

Yours,
(Sd.) MOHANDAS GANDHI

P. 173

Translation of a postcard marked 6 and addressed to Shri Ferozabai Taleyarkhan, C/o Post Master, Mhow.

Dear Sister,

Received your letter. You must be having the benefit of cold weather. Information has been received about Devdas being completely cured and hence there is no cause for anxiety. You are keeping yourself well-informed. Ba is happy. My visits are still disallowed. Vande Mataram from Sardar and Mahadeo.

Blessings from,
BAPU

Y.M.
6th July 1932

P. 181

YERAVDA MANDIR
14th July 1932

Daughter Mira,

Your letter of the 7th instant came to hand this morning (14th). Just now things are all up side down so far as my correspondence is concerned. All of it goes to the Government and what happens then I do not know. I am inquiring. Such is prison life. It is a good discipline in patience.

I am glad my letters gave some consolation to Damodardas and his wife. I hope they are now out of the wood.

What kind of a woman is Premkunver ? Is she brave enough to face these tremendous losses ?

I am keeping quite well. The weight now stands at 105¹/₂. The pain in the elbow is at a standstill. It is just possible that the ointment they are now trying may cure the elbow. But whether it does or not, there is nothing to worry over. Yes, Pyarelal is sure to profit by a temporary abstention from salt. Your experiment if it continues to yield good results will be taken up by many. Pyarelal will surely try it. But nothing definite can be said about it until you have gone on with it for at least a year.

The papers say you are on the move. Strange you should have received the order when the police must have known you were about to leave Bombay. They must have received orders before your projected departure could have come to their notice.

Vallabhbhai has now added Sanskrit studies and spinning to the envelope making. He is most diligent in his Sanskrit studies and although new to the Gandiv wheel is easily drawing 180 rounds of 20 counts.

Love from us all,
BAPU

To

Shri Mirabai,
C/o Sheth Govindlal,
7 Line End Road, Malbar Hill, Bombay.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 183]

14th July 1932

Dear Friend,

I have your letter of 7th instant. I never got yours of 12th March last.

There can be no manner of doubt that this universe of sentient beings is governed by a Law. If you can think of a law without its giver I would say

that the Law is the Law Giver, i.e. God. When we pray to the Law, we simply yearn after knowing the Law and obeying it. We become what we yearn after. Hence the necessity for prayer. Though our present life is governed by our past, our future must by that very law of cause and effect, be affected by what we do now. To the extent therefore that we feel the choice between two or more courses, we must make that choice.

Why evil exists and what it is are questions which appear to be beyond our limited reason. It should be enough to know that both good and evil, exist. And as often as we can distinguish between good and evil, we must choose the one and shun the other.

Yours,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

Velusami, Sivaganga,
(South India).

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 185]

3

14th July 1932

Dear Friend,

I thank you for your admonition. You do not expect me to argue with you. I fear that as a prisoner, I would not be permitted to enter into argument over political matters. But I can tell you that deep thinking in the solitude of a jail has not induced a change in my outlook.

Yours,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

Moulvi Saheb M. A. Khan
Rose Cottage, Kotwal Street Bazaar
3 Ferozepur Cantt, Punjab.

4

14th July 1932

Dear Friend,

I took up goat's milk because I had vowed not to take—Buffalo's or Cow's milk. Physiologically there is little difference between the three. It would have been better from the ethical standpoint if I could have resisted the temptation to take goat's milk. But the will to live was greater than the will to obey the ethical code. My views on the ethics of milk food remain

unchanged. But I see that there is no effective vegetable substitute for milk. You should not give it up.

Yours,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

Sjt. Sudhir Kumar Sen Gupta,
C/o Babu Rajanikanta Sen Gupta, Pleader,
Hooghly P. O., Bengal.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, pp. 191 to 245]

Translation of letters marked 1 to 20 and 23 to 26 and 28 to 33

1

Dear Kusum (Younger),

What question did you ask me ? I have entirely forgotten. You write it again and I will answer it. I thought that I had already answered all questions. It is certainly good to absorb the rays of the sun sitting under a nim-tree. You should start taking a hip bath. By it, the temperature will certainly go down. Rest is certainly the principal item. You should not feel tired at all when you go out for a walk. When you can read and play on the *Sitar*. How do you feel tired ? Other things can be done lying down. In Gujarati you can read, " Raichandbhaina Lekho, or, writings of Raichandbhai", all parts of " Kavya Dohan, Naval Granthavali, Astodaya, Gujarati translation of Shakuntala, Selections from the Gujarati reading series works of Kakasaheb, books by Kishorlalbhai etc. All these will be more than enough. Many more can also be pointed out.

BAPU

Y.M.
7th July 1932

2

Dear Ratilal,

Have you not completely forgotten me now ? Do not remove Shashi from the Sharda Mandir at all. He is properly being taught there. You must be happy.

BAPU

7th July 1932

3

Dear Manibehn (Parikh),

Mahadev has talked to me about your letter to him. What can you do when your body cannot work ? If those of the Ashramites who cannot work were to be driven out, I will have to drive away many of them. You have no reason to feel ashamed. Those who save their bodies from work and do not work have to be ashamed. If the Ashram cannot maintain persons like you, it should be considered useless.

BAPU

Y.M.

7th July 1932

4

Dear Shanti,

Innumerable insect are born during the rains. You should not collect the snails. Such insects are the creation of God. We do not know the use of all of them.

BAPU

Y.M.

8th July 1932

5

Dear Jaya,

When we meet a thief, we should request him not to steel, if we have the courage and love for him. We must endure if he beats us.

Sleep must be without dreams. If you are at fault and the elders do not punish you, this is mercy.

BAPU

Y. M.

8th July 1932

6

Dear Nathuram,

One who does not take part in work cannot be called a sharer in the work.

There is certainly cruelty in castrating a bull.

The sacred thread cannot be used as the string for the spinning-wheel.

One who uses his authority over others without consulting them, uses his authority autocratically.

BAPU

Y. M.

8th July 1932

7

Dear Anand,

I shall see how long you remember your irritability. It is good that you take milk regularly. How can I forget the stick while taking a walk in the evening ? Girls like you should read books selected by the teacher. Then you will learn to select the books.

BAPU

Y. M.
8th July 1932

8

Dear Shamal,

There are many persons working in the mill, who do not touch liquor at all. If your brother is not brought round, you give up his company. Pray to God to grant him good sense. In the first place you politely try to bring him round.

One who is ill, is exempted from the *Yadnya*. It is good to make proper use of the time of *Yadnya*. But if one cannot attend to it regularly, he can do it at other time.

Liquor cannot root out any disease.

BAPU

Y. M.
8th July 1932

9

Dear Sharda,

It is my belief that nobody really knows, how the name Bharat Khand came into use. But, it is said that it is named after Bharat the son of Shakuntala. You should not mind stories about the moving of legs, etc. In the old days, if we had knowledge in one direction, there was absence of it in the other. When a sister dwells with her brother, she may be called " Sahadharma Charini " (one leading a religious life along with him). But it is the custom to apply that word to the wife only. I tear off the letters.

BAPU

10

Dear Mangala,

When did you begin suffering from pain in the chest and waist and for how many years have you been suffering ? How do you feel now ?

It is true absence of desire when we trust that whatever we do is done by God Himself. The greatest act of one attached to truth is to stick to truth in whatever condition one is placed.

BAPU

Y. M.
4th July 1932

11

Dear Pushpa,

You have improved your handwriting very much.

To write a biography means to write whatever we know about the life of a person which is fit to be published. If one feels sleepy at the prayer time, one must stand up.

BAPU

Y. M.
8th July 1932

12

Boys and Girls,

It is very good that those who feel sleepy at the prayer time, stand up. The reason why, the feet of those who stand up, ache is that they do not know how to do it. One who has properly kept his feet thus ' L ' who stands erect, can stand for a long time without being fatigued. One who is not accustomed, will certainly feel fatigued for a day or two. But after being accustomed to it, no fatigue is felt. We should show love for those going the wrong path. We should do service to him and we should follow the right path only. And so with the passage of time the one going the wrong path, will come to the right one. One who practises devotion every now and then, teaches devotion to others. All objects are served by following truth in life.

Your questions appear to have been asked for the sake of mere asking.

BAPU

Y. M.
8th July 1932

13

Dear Manu,

If a child does not like milk, how can it do ? Milk alone should be taken when you are hungry and then you will get to like it. During the five minutes

silence at the prayer time, you should repeat the name of Rama. You should not tease one who is easily teased. By writing a diary we know what we did at what time. Idleness is removed.

BAPU

Y.M.
8th July 1932

14

Dear Mahavir,

Now you must have received the money. All should keep the diary complete. You all write to me the full programme for a day or two. Durga must have been better now.

BAPU

Y.M.
8th July 1932

15

Dear Vanmala,

A flower is just like ourselves. It blooms after a particular lapse of time. Then it is said to be completely ripe.

BAPU

Y.M.
8th July 1932

16

Dear Indu,

It is very good that you have confidence in Narandas. As he says it is possible that you will benefit by being patient in taking food, and sleeping for a long time. Do you get motions properly ?

BAPU

Y.M.
8th July 1932

17

Dear Punjabhai,

To one who is sinless, death is a bed of happiness. When we have taken to heart the lesson that birth and death are one and the same thing, we should know that we have freed ourselves from the cycle of birth and death.

Blessings from,
BAPU

Y.M.
8th July 1932

18

Dear Balabhadra,

I have not been satisfied with your letter. The fact that questions do not occur means that you do not want to ask questions. But that does not mean that one who has a question to ask should write a letter. You write in clear hand, what you are doing, seeing and thinking about. If you go through my writings you will get the answers to the questions asked by you. Do you remember what you had asked ? If any one commits a fault, his elder prevents him from doing so. One should not talk at the time of *Yadnya*.

BAPU

8th July 1932

19

Dear Panditji,

One thing was left out to be written to you last week. About the time passed in prayer. One should not be jealous and disgusted at it. In Islam, the Namaz is for five times. Every Namaz lasts for at least 15 minutes. What is to be known is the same. As regards Christian prayer, one thing at least is certainly useful. That too will last for 15 minutes every time. In the Roman Catholic religion and the English Church, the prayers do not last for less the half an hour, and it is held in the morning, evening, noon. A devotee does not feel it irksome. In short none of us has a right to effect a change in our curriculum. Because we all are imperfect and we have carried on much discussion about the curriculum. We have to create interest in the prayer. We have to see God through it. We have to obtain the daily food from it. Leaving aside the idea of effecting a change in it, we should adorn what is there and pour life into it. As I go on thinking over it, I feel like this.

BAPU

10th July 1932

20

Dear Bhau,

The first verse of our prayer rankled in my mind also. But on deep thought I found that the constant repetition of this verse realising its meaning is appropriate. Our intelligence certainly says that we are not idols made Of earth, but we are the witness who is residing in them. The description of this witness is contained in this verse and then, the worshipper takes an oath that "I am that witness—Brahma. Those persons alone, who daily make an attempt to be like that and relax their connection with the body, can take

such an oath. At everytime when swoon, delusion, love and hatred appear one should recount the merit of Brahma and try to be free from love, hatred, etc. By so doing, a man becomes like one about whom he is contemplating daily. Hence we may repeat daily this verse in all humility but with firmness and regard this vow as a witness in every act.

BAPU

Y.M.
9th July 1932

21

My Dear Mathew,

In God is Truth, *is* certainly does not mean " equal to " nor does it merely mean " is truthful". Truth is not a mere attribute of God but He is That. He is nothing if He is not that. Truth in Sanskrit means *Sat*. *Sat* means *Is*. Therefore Truth is implied In is. God is, nothing else is. Therefore the more truthful we are the nearer we are to God. We *are* only to the extent that we are truthful.

The illustration of hen and her chickens is good. But better still is that of the Lord and his serf. The latter is far from the former because both are mentally so far apart though physically so near. Hence Milton's " mind is its own place " and the Gita's " man is the author of his own freedom or bondage ".

It is to realise this freedom that I would have is to labour as pariahs and labourers.

Love,
BAPU

Yeravda Mandir
9th July 1932

22

My Dear Amtul,

The monthly irregularity will go, if you will persist in, in the friction sitz-bath. Thousands of women have benefited by the treatment assisted of course by simple diet.

Though I wrote to Dr. Sharma, I have not heard from him.

I do not want you to send me your diary book. I simply wanted your day's work. This you have given quite nicely. Your Urdu writing is quite clear this time. I have been able to decipher every word. It is undoubtedly better than your English. Try to write more and more in Urdu. And when you will let me, I too shall write to you in Urdu.

The Government have not yet granted permission for Mirabehn to see me. And if it is not granted, I am afraid I must deny myself the happiness of seeing the others.

But you must not worry.

Love,
BAPU

P. 205
23

YERAVDA MANDIR
9th July 1932

Dear Nimu,

I read your letter to Ramdas. What a fool you are ! You do not write to me, nor speak to Narandas about your difficulties and write about them to poor Ramdas ! Was it for this that I got you married to Ramdas ? Moreover, the teaching in the Ashram is to the effect that a woman should not believe herself to be dependent, weak, should not go on looking at her husband, but should make her own way (in life). Take the instance of Gangadevi. When Totaramji became a beggar, it was Gangadevi, who kept up his spirit. Your difficulty is nothing. If there is any need for a boy, Narandas will get one. You should place all your difficulties before Narandas, as if he were your father. You certainly have confidence in him. This much is my advice. Do not engage a boy for doing Ashram work. To take proper care of children, I consider to be the work of the Ashram. The responsibility of taking care of children lies with the Ashram. You are doing your duty on behalf of the Ashram. Hence, believe that you have given all the hours to the Ashram. In spite of this if you require a boy, it is a different matter. You write to me properly. Otherwise I will have to bring you round.

BAPU

Original

[H D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 209]

24

Dear Jamna,

Your letter to hand. If you cannot stay at Ranavav during the monsoon, you are welcome to the Ashram. But if you cannot at all keep well there, another place will have to be found out for you. I have such fears that the mental condition of the kind maintained outside cannot be maintained in the Ashram. You should take in the Ashram whatever food in whatever manner you used to take outside the Ashram. The change in the food which

is necessary for the body only should be made if necessary. I wish that the air and water of the Ashram may suit you. They will certainly suit you some day. You should ask Purushottam to write to me. Let him write to me an account of Ranavav. It can be said that you have made good relations with neighbours. You inform me as to how many days you stayed mere and how much you spent.

BAPU

Y. M.
9th July 1932

P. 209

25

Dear Dhiru,

I do not consider your letter to be clear. You say that there is no difficulty in spinning yarn of 15 counts, and when you reach 30 counts, it is done up. But there is a great difference between yarn of 15 and 30 counts. Do you say that there is no difficulty in spinning yarn up to 30 counts? If you say that, what is the speed for spinning yarn of 30 counts ? What is the waste in spinning a tola of yarn ? What is the speed for spinning yarn of 40 counts ? What is the waste after it ? What is the reason that, there is difficulty in spinning yarn of finer counts ? Prabhudas has much faith in you. If you want to fulfil his hopes, you should be engrossed in the spinning-wheel and find out its faults, if there be any, and should find out its measure of strength. By spinning on one spindle only, perhaps, yarn of finer quality might be obtained. Also find out whether you can obtain as much yarn upon a spindle by the Magan spinning wheel, as you would get on a spindle by an ordinary spinning-wheel.

Many Muslims believe in rebirth. There is a great difference between one who tells a falsehood once and who has formed a habit of telling lies.

BAPU

Y.M.
9th July 1932

P. 211

26

Brother Sitlasahay,

Your letter to hand. I have carefully gone through it. It is not proper that you should compete with Prabhudas. It is likely that Prabhudas's expenses might be less as he gets some other conveniences. Some estimate

can be arrived at from the expenses incurred by Prabhudas. But as a matter of fact, the unavoidable expenses only are to be taken into account. A big amount was to be spent for Rasik all of a sudden. Maganlal fell ill and died at such a place in Patna that no expenses were incurred. One time, Krishnadas, did not incur any expense. But when he was removed to Dehradun, the expenses rose at once. Hence, ultimately every case is to "be separately considered. We can only desire and demand from them that they should spend money thoughtfully and keep an account of the money spent. The Ashram can spend so far as it can afford to do it. When the Ashram cannot afford we should all assemble in the Ashram and suffer the consequences and while so doing should laugh and enjoy the pleasure. I have suggested this to Narandas also. On looking to the bill of Padma, if there is anything to be said, it should be written to you if you are there or to Padma. Is not this proper ?

BAPU

Y. M.
7th July 1932

No. 27 wanting.
P. 213
28

Bhai Kanaiyalal,

If the term *parmatma* (God) is taken to mean *satya* (Truth) then it is possible to see (Him) directly. It is not proper to the literally the stories regarding Dhruva and others having seen (Him). The description given by the poets is a kind of metaphor.

(2) *Vanar* (monkey) must be taken to mean people with monkey-like nature.

(3) The main idea of the Vedas is spiritual wisdom (lit. the knowledge of Brahman).

(4) Practice of truth by means of mind, speech and body is the everlasting and best Yajna (sacrifice). For the present time its practical (lit. corporeal form is to ply the *charkha* with the idea of benevolence.

(5) The true means of (following) religion is the observance of Yamas and Niyamas (moral and religious duties).

(6) See in Chapter II (of the Gita) the characteristics of a *sthitaprajna* (one who is firm in judgment and wisdom).

BAPU

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 213]

YERAVDA MANDIR
6th July 1932

29

Dear Parasram,

Your both letters to hand. When there is any doubt about the grammatical accuracy of any Hindi word, is not the taking of help from a dictionary the right course ? One who knows Sanskrit will commit less mistakes in making use of words. But it is not a rule that a certain word which is used in Sanskrit in a particular sense should also be used the same sense in Hindi. Hence we should regard the dictionary as an authority. And where the help of the dictionary is not available, we should regard one who knows Sanskrit as an authority. I referred the word " Nirutsaha " (i.e. " want of enthusiasm ") in the Hindi dictionary which is with me, and there also it is termed as an adjective. Hence one who knows Sanskrit and the dictionary both agree about it. I am writing all this merely out of love of language. I hope for a higher knowledge of languages from those who know particular languages, also I hope that they should use it correctly too. Hence I asked about the word *Nirutsaha* in my last letter. I take it that your knowledge of Hindi is sound, and I hope that you will be more and more particular about it day by day. It is certainly necessary for some one to dedicate his life in the service of the Hindi language. Politics is there on our brain (lit. back). But this cannot be nor should be a special subject for any one. We might have willingly or unwillingly plunged into it, but as soon as its activities cool down, we should go again by the way we have adopted. Also it is not for all to plunge themselves into politics. Hence we have to take up according to our capacity and desire, and of the many permanent and constructive activities. You certainly have a liking for Hindi. How, I would like if you think of dedicating your life for the spread of Hindi after adding to your knowledge of Hindi as much as you can. It is not my aim to say that you should make up this resolve at present. For the present you may do what you are doing. Most of your time is taken up by Hindi only. Whether you should stick to Hindi till the end of your life, will become clear by itself in course of time. Just now I have simply sown the seed.

Now about the Ramayana. What you write on this subject is true. I do not regard Ramayana by Radhaswami to be a refined volume. The Ramayana by Tulsidas is a highly refined one. We have to create interest in it. We can surely bring out an abridged Ramayana in the very language of; Tulsidas. I had made an attempt with regard to Balkand (i.e. Chapter on childhood of Rama). Probably there is one copy of that book in the Ashram. Twenty years have elapsed since then. If I take up that task again, perhaps I would choose entirely new verse and couplets from it.

Prabhudas has also made an attempt in this direction. As you are teaching Hindi, it will be of use if you do some thing in this direction. Also you ought not to have much difficulty. Mahadev says that two or three such attempts have already been made in the U. P. But there is no need to be anxious about them. There is no harm if a forth is added to the three. People of different temperament, keeping in mind children or people of a different class, would make different selections. If you have no time to spare for the evening prayers I do not press you at all for the same. There are the Hindi classes. You try to create interest in the Ramayana wherever it is possible to do so. Also if there are some who desire to study Ramayana for the sake of devotion, and if you have any spare time, you may arrange for an hour or two per week to take such a class. But for this I do not press you at all. I am only giving expression to my desire. You only can say, how and to what extent it can be carried out.

You need not feel uneasy in the least, as I write all this. You write to me that your work is going on nicely. Comparatively when you feel most comfortable, I do not at all desire to disturb you or make your mind unsteady by putting before you new thoughts or new schemes. These thoughts came to my mind on reading your letter and hence I have placed them before you. Retaining whatever you can fully understand, digest and put into execution, out of them, you can throw away the rest. If you throw away the whole lot I will not be shocked in the least. I have only one mighty desire for you that you may feel yourself entirely at ease and may not be embarrassed at all.

BAPU

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 221]

YERAVDA MANDIR
6th July 1932

30

Dear Mathuradas,

Your letter to hand. It is not proper that you should lower the value of sewing done for *Yajna*, which you have hit upon. Its true value lies in making the most condemned Khaddar useful. This cannot be afforded if we have to pay the sewing charges. The value which a devotee attaches to flowers by preparing a garland for adornment can be given to the most condemned Khaddar by those who are prepared to do the sewing work for the sake of benevolence. As for instance, one who performs the *yajna* will not prepare a shirt out of such condemned Khaddar. But he may prepare a mattress,

a bag, pillows. We can think for such numerous articles, the preparation of which does not involve the washing of Khaddar, and it can be kept up for a long time in that condition. I had a hand-spun and hand-woven woollen blanket with me. It was given to me as a gift. It was worn out to such an extent by use that it would have been torn by further use. But I was an artisan and I had with me a benefactress like Jankibahen. I gave this blanket to her and showed her how to make a new blanket out of it. That blanket is still lying with me. I had intentionally taken this blanket with me when I visited the Royal Palace. I will also show you how it was renovated. It was sewn along with thick Khaddar as a lining and its whole surface was stitched cross-wise throughout its length and breadth with the result that the worn out woollen blanket being stitched to the white Khaddar, became as if it were a new one, and it now gives me more warmth than it did before. This does not mean that the effort you are making to improve the quality of yarn is useless. I see its necessity every moment. But this invention does not place the sewing for *yajna* in the background nor does it hinder its use. Still the love for Khaddar had not spread extensively. In other words the devotion to *daridra narayan* (service to the poor) has not spread wide. Or, where there is the devotion it has not been proved to ignorant devotees that Khaddar is the direct and easy road to it. Your invention might be made use of to a great extent if this is proved. Hence this thing has not at all left my mind. Do write a book on the improvement of the quality of yarn. But in it do not write a single sentence which you would not have proved by experience. Also do not establish principles from your experience only, other also must have the same experience. If you have not been able to do this, stop writing the books. I have seen that the books which have not been supported by experience are almost worthless. Just as anybody may place a translation of *charak** before us. Because most of the herbs described by him are not to be found by us and if found we cannot prove their virtues as described by him. Hence what is most important is this that you yourself should spin out the best yarn of various counts, and while so doing make an analysis of the share of the spindle, the spinning-wheel, the quality of cotton, carding and yourself, and artisan ; keep a note of these things, compare your experience with that of others. A book prepared out of these data will pass as a bar of gold weighed at the *Dharma Kanta*. † You asked me as to what limit I keep with regard to counts. Once it was kept at 20, then it went to 40. Now I keep no limit. I certainly desire that we should reach 400 counts if we can get a person—whether male or female—who has the patience to spin yarn of this count and if we can card such cotton as would be spun into such fine yarn or if we can obtain grow such cotton. In short, I see much meaning in going the extent to which our experience and our zeal lead us.

* A Treatise on Ayurvedic medicines.

† Balance maintained by the gold and silver associations.

Because, thereby there is every possibility of the rise in the value of the art of spinning at once. You must be knowing that a friend of Satish Babu had reached up to 150 counts. Khaddar prepared out of it is preserved in the collections of Satish Babu this day. But along with this, it is my insistence that, whatever count of yarn we might spin, must be strong and of uniform quality. I do not know what marks are needed to pass the test. You and others having experience can say this. I have a rough test for it with me. It is that any weaver must be easily able to weave this yarn into cloth. If a weaver rejects it, even if it has passed through our test, I would consider it as rejected. I will test my yarn in water as written by you on getting a cup. Without testing, I know that the yarn spun by me does not satisfy me. On account of the hand trouble, I have found it—difficult to change my hand. My hand was well accustomed to the *gandiv* spinning wheel. I could spin yarn of a tolerably good quality upon it. The speed was negligible. But I had to draw the yarn with the right-hand and then to work the Magan spinning-wheel, and hence I have gained control over the Magan spinning-wheel with great difficulties. Afterwards, taking it to be my duty to spin the damaged slivers, I began spinning them. For the last few days only I have been spinning the good slivers. Hence, by the time your cup arrives and I put the yarn to test my yarn will be fit to stand test. I used to spin yarn of about 25 counts. Since working on the Magan spinning-wheel I am spinning yarn of about 19 counts. Now I will perhaps make an advance. I believe there is nothing left to answer now. Keep courage, be firm, do not fall into useless thoughts. What is the condition of Motiben ? I have got the cup.

BAPU

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 229]

31

Dear Prema,

Received your letter. You made an attempt to embellish the envelope and spoiled it (in the attempt). The same is the case of embellishments which are of no use. Whatever embellishments the Sardar makes on the envelopes are not for the mere sake of embellishing the envelopes but the embellishments are the result of use. They therefore look nice. If the envelopes once used are to be re-used, then what has been written thereon should be erased. In order that it can be used again, instead of erasing the matter written on the envelope, you cover the matter with slips of paper of a particular size without ornamental borders. It looked well. But it did not satisfy him. He therefore turns over the envelopes received from there; so that small slips may not have to be pasted on the envelopes and the envelopes would look like new one. Mark this carefully and you will

find that out. As yours slips with ornamental borders had been half pasted they looked very bad. There was no use at all of the same. The trouble taken and the time spent by you in preparing the same was wasted and some papers were spoiled. This is a loss to the nation. There are two morals to it. We should not (blindly) follow any one without understanding (why we do so). Decoration for the sake of decoration is not decoration at all. It is said of the big churches in Europe that there is necessarily some use of all the decoration in those churches. It may be a fact or not. There is no place for doubt about the rule I have given above.

In your letter this time there is very little else except the criticism of Mr. Pradhan. I think the criticism is useless and hence it is not necessary to consider its justification. " Judge not lest ye be judged." This maxim is worth being laid to the heart. I do not recollect its Gujarati equivalent. If there is a Marathi equivalent for the same, do write (it send) it to me.

I want a list of the Urdu books. Do send me the work of Shibly as also the biography of the Khalifa.

I would like that you prefer death to eating fish. Does it mean that you cannot take Cod Liver Oil even ? You have not to think of what I wish (you to do). I have asked this question only to know the state of your mind. You should try to take more and more milk or *ghee* or curds and ghee in your diet. Instead of raw vegetable there ought to be ripe fruits some times. Do not *Papayas* grow there ? Do you not get tomatos ? Do you not get Bhaji of any kind ? Why don't you yourself sow some tomatoes as also lettuce. They grow very rapidly. Raw Papaya cannot be eaten in large quantity. It cannot be eaten very often. Without taking the expenses into consideration, carry out the above changes (in your diet). Stick to hip-bath in hot water. It is specially—necessary to get the part aching massaged. Any girl will willingly massage it. By love Vidya's stupidity will be removed. Rambhau's case is a little difficult but there is only one remedy for it. Three authorities are working over him. So that difficulty arises if all the three authorities do not work in the same direction.

The three authorities are Panditji, Laxmibehn and you or he who supervises over her. It is love alone that will find a way out of this (impasse). To the extent that love expands in you, to the extent your ability to improve such children will be helpful.

Cultivate a liberal-minded attitude towards the older girls of the Ashram. They do not sit at home idly but they sit at home because of (some) physical disability. You or I cannot find out what their physical disability is. It is the girls alone who will find that out. What they find out may be wrong (but) it is enough, it may not be wrong to them. Among the older girls there are Anandi, Kusum and Nimu. What do all these do ? Anandi is

a girl who would not like to shirk work. Kusum would never shirk work. Nimu has the burden of taking care of two children. She hardly knew how to rear up children when in the meanwhile she became a mother. Now, how much work can be expected from her ? Other older girls of the Ashram may be those who are in your view. All this cannot be weighed in the balance with which we weigh gold and pearls and you will learn from experience that the more liberal-minded attitude you adopt, the greater will be your ability to exact work from people. God knows whether this is true or false. But it is said that I am able to exact more work from men. If this is true, the reason (therefore) lies in the fact that I never entertain a doubt about their shirking the work. I am satisfied with whatever amount of work done by them ; and I ask them to do further work and they (willingly) do it. There are some who say that to the extent people deceive me, to that extent they might be hardly deceiving others. Even if this test proves true, yet I will never repent. It would be enough if I receive a certificate that I do not deceive any one in this world. Even if no one were to give me that certificate, I myself give that certificate to me.

I think untruthfulness is the worst evil. I do not believe in the maxims " the greatest good of the greatest numbers " and " might is right". The rule for humanity is " the Good of all"—universal uplift and precedence to the weak. We are called human beings with two feet but we have not been able to give up still the nature of the quadrupeds. Duty lies in giving up that nature.

BAPU

Y. M.
6th July 1932

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 235]

32

YERAVDA MANDIR
6th July 1932

Dear Narandas,

Your post and letter received. At present I receive them very regularly. It is not understood how the packet which I gave for being posted on Monday did not reach you till Saturday. Hence forward, see the post stamp on the packet. The letter that you post from there is received the next day while the one that I send reaches (you) after six days—this is a matter which cannot be understood. It is not necessary to send the time-table at present. Send it when you find anything specially (requiring a change) therein or it will be enough if you continue to send it once a month. I know somewhat that when everything becomes regular and everybody does his

work sincerely, no one would feel any burden and if there is any uneasiness in the mind of anybody, it will be and ought to be removed. For a truthful man one thing alone is enough—he should not undertake more work than what he can do and should never wish to do less work than what he can do. He who tries to do more work than what he can is vain, is addicted. He who does less work than what he can is committing theft. By keeping timetable we can also save ourselves from this fault unknowingly. I do not mean to say that we do save ourselves because if we do not follow timetable assiduously and zealously who cannot get full benefit therefrom.

Did you go through the letter of Sitlasahay I found the letter innocent. I do not see anger therein. If what he writes about Prabhudas is true, the demand of Sitlasahay cannot be called improper. But it can be judged only in the way I have written i.e. after seeing the figures of his account. In such matters instances of one another do not prove useful. It may prove helpful. But if anyone submits (lit. gives) his accounts to us and if we cannot find any fault therein, we must pay up accordingly. It is quite likely that such instances may prove harmful to us in future. But let us hope that as our object is pure we shall be safe in future. He who has supported us till now will also support us hereafter. We shall continue to pay so long as we have (money). He will snatch away whatever we have if we have vilified his name. Then whom shall we give ? Sitlasahay writes that Padma had sent you the accounts. Is it true ? I believe that what he writes in connection with the expenses of Prabhudas is also true. But it is necessary to consider further if the facts given in Sitlasahay's letter are not true. So that my opinion (can be said to) have been based on the truthfulness of the facts mentioned in Sitlasahay's letter. It is quite proper that you have been laying all the facts before me I express my opinion so long as I can do so. Your burden is thus lessened.

Ramdas has sent to me the letter Nimu wrote to him (Ramdas). In it she writes to have engaged a boy (servant). She believes that a boy (servant) is necessary. She doubts that this action of hers may not have perhaps met with your approval. She also writes that you have not said to her anything in that connection. Ramdas writes (to me) that I should decide (lit. do) what seems proper to me. I cannot directly decide this matter. See the letter I am writing to Nimu and do what you think proper. Do not wait for Nimu's asking you (but) see her and satisfy her. Do save Shashi if possible. If necessary rebuke Ratilal in the matter.

10th July 1932. The matter of my post has been much disturbed. So that God knows when my last post reached you or whether it has reached you or not. I do not know when this also will reach you. I have been trying to get the matter cleared whatever may be the result.

One should not rejoice on getting what is liked. One should not feel sorry by getting what is not desirable.

To-day's sermon is on " The Pursuit of knowledge. Read it carefully and meditate over it. If you have correctly understood it an additional burden falls on you. It is a mental burden. Bring (the picture of) every man before your eyes and find out whether what he does, he does with a thorough knowledge thereof. You should understand and explain the theory of all the activities. Ask me what you do not understand therein. I will answer your queries on the subjects about which I know somewhat. See whether every one gets time to read or not. You should have some (spare) time to undertake this task. You have been doing the work of a teacher daily. Hence in your case this is not a new burden. I have only extended your field (of activity). My method of imparting education is easy. There is very little of cramming anywhere in it. Our activities are ordinary and therefore the laws governing them are not beyond our pale. As regards knowledge etc., every one can according to his capabilities, acquire the same by going to the libraries and he who possesses knowledge may impart the same as much as he can. The chief point is the development of the intellect and the realization of Truth. When that is understood, the rest is easy. Then there is no end to contentment. Patience is acquired by itself and the key to acquire knowledge is secured. One will hope to acquire as much as is necessary for self-realization.

BAPU

List of Letters

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| 1. Kusum (junior). | 18. Balbhadra. |
| 2. Ratilal. | 19. Panditji. |
| 3. Manibehen Parikh. | 20. Bhau. |
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| 16. Indu. | 33. (Sermon on) Pursuit of knowledge. |
| 17. Punjabhai. | |

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 243]

33

Pursuit of knowledge

While writing the history of the Ashram, let me give you a substance of the ideas which are principally occupying my mind about education. In the Ashram the minds of some appear to be wanting in the pursuit of learning, that is, reading and learning. I also can notice this defect. But this will perhaps be associated with the Ashram. I will not go into the causes thereof at present.

We feel this defect because we have not known the meaning of the pursuit of knowledge and the mode of acquiring the study of that meaning. In other words our minds are working in the belief that the present system is proper. From my point of view, there is a great defect in the current system of study and the mode of imparting it.

The true pursuit of knowledge is that by means of which we may know the soul (Atma) ourselves, god and truth. For knowing these, some may have the need for the knowledge of literature, physical science, art, etc., but the aim of acquisition of learning must be self-introspection. This is found in the Ashram. To this end we are carrying on numerous activities in the Ashram. All these, according to my interpretation, is pure pursuit of knowledge. The very activity can be carried on without the aim of knowing the soul (Atma Darshan). When it is so, let it be an instrument for livelihood or anything else, but it is not the pursuit of knowledge. Understanding, devotion to duty, service are needed for the pursuit of knowledge. Where there is discretion, there is certainly the growth of intelligence. There should be an auspicious resolve while doing even the smallest work ; while doing it we should make an effort to understand its cause, and its theory. Theory may be applicable! to every activity—that of cooking, cleansing, carpentry, spinning. From the point of view of a student, one who stewards the activity knows or formulates its theory.

If every ashramite understands this much, he knows that the Ashram is a big school wherein, there is not a particular time devoted to study, but that all the time is for study. Every individual who dwells in the Ashram with a desire for the knowledge of self-knowledge of Truth, is the teacher and the pupil. He is a teacher as regards subjects in which he is an expert and he is a pupil in so far as he has to learn a subject. We should impart without hesitation to our neighbour the knowledge of the subject of which we know more than our neighbour, and should take without hesitation from our neighbour the knowledge of the subject of which he knows more than ourselves. If we thus interchange our knowledge, there will not be any need of a teacher for us, and the study will become easy and natural.

Education of character is the highest study. The more we observe the principles of moral and religious duties (Yamas and Niyamas), the more our knowledge—the power of attaining knowledge of truth—will increase.

Then what about learning ? This question does not now arise at all. Of learning it is just like other activities. In the above discussion, one doubt is removed. That is, of the teacher who imparts learning to the building in the form of a school. When there is a desire for learning in us, we should know that we are going to acquire it by our own efforts. There is certainly room for that in the Ashram. If I have explained to you properly in what I have written above, the problem of learning is solved. Those who have got the learning should impart it to others as time permits and others should go on receiving it.

BAPU

10th July 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 251]

Translation of the accompanying postcard in Hindi, addressed to Ganesh Dattasharma Gaud, Shantikuti, Agar Malwa, Central India.

Dear Ganesh Dattaji,

I have received your book. Prisoners are not permitted to write a forward.

Yours,
MOHANDAS GANDHI

Yeravda Mandir
18th July 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 253]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
18th July 1932

Dear Friend,

I thank you for your letter. As you know it is not open to me to argue about matters political. But I can heartily endorse your remark that all the leaders must bear the natural consequences of their actions.

Yours,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

Sjt. Narhari Devsharma
Barrackpore Tank Road
Barrackpore

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
18th July 1932

Dear Sister,

I have to thank you once more for your lovely gifts. I have got the beautiful book. The Way of the Cross with your markings and the crucifixion cards with helpful descriptions and thoughtful quotations made by you at the back.

I hope all your troubles are over and if they are not God has blessed you with sufficient wisdom to regard them, in the language of one of your quotations, as " blessings in disguise ".

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

Princess Aristarchi
Hotel Schotzky
Freiburg I. B., Germany

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 267]

Some Hospital in Lahore
July 13, 1932

My Dear Gandhiji,

Did you receive my first letter ? If so, why this sheer neglect towards the maddest of your tribe ? No doubt I do not expect the usual " bon bouche " (the traditional pat on the back) from you. It would be waste of energy on your part and a blow to my standard of intelligence said she modestly.

You will read from the above address where I am. I have been removed from my kannel within a few hours notice as the surgeons want their pound of flesh. It is the same trouble which made people say why the Mahatma has an appendix.

There is a move to throw me out of my legitimately acquired kannel in that case I shall go to the front and bark again.

How are you ?

I am very cheerful and full of beans as usual. Do be friendly and write, even if it is to swear at me.

With all respects.

From your obedient,
(Sd.) KHURSHED

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, pp. 275 to 283]

Translation of a letter marked 2 (a)

Dear Chhaganlal,

If Ram wills it we shall meet on the 21st. What man proposes seldom happens. See. Papa recovers from the death-bed while her husband Vardachari who was hale and healthy died after a short illness and left a widowed girl for Rajaji to take care of. Papa is a favourite daughter of Rajaji. She is a courageous girl and therefore she will bear (the misfortune calmly). If wisdom has permeated to the heart there will remain nothing to suffer because life and death are alike to one who thoroughly understands these things. Since who have before our eyes a recent exemple of such uncertainty of life I have sought the help of Ramji (to enable us to meet). We shall meet if it is His wish that we should meet on the 21st. Even if we do not meet well and good.

Ashram letter is sent along with this.

Now as regards Ramdas Nimu's letter and the lines written by you on the blank part of the sheet reached me. There is nothing impolite in your writing on the blank portion. In my opinion it would be impolite not to use that part. Again, in prison we can feel greedy about everything and we should keep up this greed throughout life. This is also a prison in that the body is even a jail. So that it would be well if we can observe all the good rules of this small prison throughout the life. If we cannot observe them, we should admit our weakness to that extent and should try to observe them as far as we can.

I have written to Narandas that after talking with Nimu, he should do what is proper. I have jokingly given a mild rebuke to Nimu. Why does she trouble you ? Why did she not write to me direct ? Why did she not make matters clear with Narandas. Is it for troubling you here also that she is married to you. Again a girl brought up in the Ashram would not believe herself to be weak or dependent. She would find mid way out. She would not sit (idly) looking at the face of her husband. What a (Good) example Gangadevi had set ? Totaramji became a pauper : she kept up his spirits and did not allow his beggarliness to be felt at all. If she does not write to me hereafter she will have to be brought round. I have written to her to this effect. I have expressed my opinion that she should not engage a boy servant to do the Ashram work. A mother who takes proper care of her children is also doing the Ashram work, because so long as Nimu is in the. Ashram the responsibility of taking care of the children rests with the Ashram, i.e. Nimu by taking care of the children discharge her duty to the Ashram and so it is equivalent to doing Ashram work. You need not be anxious over it. You have done right in throwing that anxiety on me.

At present my letters are being checked. There is no reason why they should do so. But are we not prisoners ? Hence perhaps my letter may reach the Ashram late. Even in that case there is no cause for anxiety. Your weight must increase. The doctor says that Ramdas can ask for and eat whatever he likes. If milk is necessary, it should be taken. You should not allow the body to become weak. I know your nature. I am also of the same views. But I would not hesitate to take those things which other companions do not get if I am convinced that my health require them. It is a different matter if we know that the other companions also need them.

As regards the health of Surendra some thought has to be given. Does he take wheat at present? His weight must increase. If the energy is maintained there is no reason to add to the weight.

I have sent Parsi book for Mr. Darbari. I have not paid for it. He may return it when he had done with it. It is a very good book. It contains a full substance of the Zoroastrian ethics. Now Mr. Darbari must be completely recovered.

Devdas is completely recovered. There is nothing settled about (his) transfer. It seems other (Prisoners) are where they were lodged.

Prof. Trivedi has sent (me) the writings of (Swami) Vivekanand. I did not send for them. If anyone from your side has sent for the same please 'let me know so that I may send the same to him.

As regards our activity the latest news is that the Sardar has begun the study of Sanskrit. He has sent for the 24 parts of the Guide to Sanskrit by Satavalekar. The first part will be finished in about 3 days. Attempts are being made by him to begin spinning. He is also doing the work of making envelopes. You already know that the weight three of us has increased.

We have not received any new books worth reading. Chandulal has sent me the Gondal Reading Series.

If Ramdas has occasion to write to Nimu, he may write a brief purport of what I have written above. So that she may know my views even if my letter reaches her late, or does not reach her at all.

It is surprising there is no letter from you this time.

We three of us remember you all.

Blessings from,
BAPU

Y.M.
9th July 1932

My post is passing through strict scrutiny. In consequence there is every possibility of the Mimansa of Maganbhai being lost, so Dahyabhai may bring it if the same is sent to him. He will personally hand it over to the Superintendent and then there will be no fear of its being lost. Nevertheless, he must have a copy of it in his possession.

BAPU

I send herewith Mr. Bhansali's letter for your perusal. You will like it. It is not necessary to send it back.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 283]

Translation of a letter marked 2 (b)

For Joshi

Revered Bapuji,

After leaving Hrishikesh and Hardwar, I have arrived in the Saharanpur District. It is the seventh month that begins to-day since I left Ahmedabad a second time. During this period I have gained much experience. I have seen the true pleasures of life. I am in great joy.

At present I have got with me nothing else except two *Langots* (loin cloths) and a stick from the woods. In Ahmedabad the hot season was a source of annoyance to me. My eyes used to burn and I used to have granulations in the eye every now and then, and I was greatly troubled. But in the strong heat of this Northern India, while walking in the mid-day heat barefooted and with one *Langot* on my body and the other wrapped round my head, I could put up with the strong heat (here). At times I have been plodding my way sometimes without food and sometimes without water. By God's grace I have not met with any mishap till now. As I have been suffering from rheumatism in the leg I walk lame and cannot walk more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ or $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles per hour. Almost all who pass by me think me to be blind.

In a short time, I shall get solitude. If God keeps me hale and hearty I will write another letter within three months. (By that time) I will take to cult of Nudity.

Please ask Kakasaheb, Mahadeobhai and Surendra to forgive my faults. My bows to all.

Bows from,
BHANSALI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 289]

Translation of a postcard addressed to Natwarlal I. Shah, Surat

YERAVDA MANDIR
19th July 1932

Dear Natwarlal,

Your letter has been received. It is very good that you have been plying the *takli*. To ply the *takli* does not mean to draw out a thread. But it is to draw 160 yards of yarn of at least 12 counts of uniform twist per hour so that there may be no difficulty in weaving. One should not have even any confidence about letters from one in jail. Your letter came to my hand to-day. That its fourteen days after you wrote it. It remains to be seen when this reaches you. In these circumstances there is no meaning in my replying by return of post. But your vow is such that you must have adhered to it on the ground of not receiving my letter. This will certainly do you good. And if you can pull on without tea and sugar for so many days how can you not do without them for ever. We know from the lives of course (of people) in this world that both these things are unnecessary, inasmuch as they are acquainted neither with tea nor sugar. About the jail-life of one in jail cannot be written at length. But to the prisoners whose mind is innocent this life happens to be peaceful and elevating.

Blessings from,
BAPU

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, pp. 291 to 295]

Translation of a letter addressed to S. D. Satavalekar

YERAVDA
19th July 1932

Brother Satavalekar,

Your letter to hand just to-day. (The book) Sanskrit Pathmala was received before that and I was awaiting your letter. May I thank you for the Pathmala? I have received several books from you. (The monthly magazine) *Purusharth* continues to be received. You, will be glad to know that Sardarji has finished (the study of) two parts (of the Pathmala) and is studying the third. We are making a note of the defects (in the book) that come to our knowledge. We had decided to draw your attention to them long before you sent in your suggestion. On the whole there is no doubt that the Pathmala is very well designed. We shall draw your attention to all the defects we notice in the Pathmala with a view to increasing its usefulness.

There is not much of pain in my arm. A certain kind of motion produces pain in the left elbow. The Superintendent of this place gave me " Lakshadi " oil and it was rubbed over the part but it did no good. In fact, that oil is effective when the pain is due to rheumatism. Rheumatism is not the cause of the pain in the elbow joint. So far the doctors are of opinion that the pain is due to the elbow having been used in moving the Charkha. I have, therefore, given up the use of the left arm in moving the Charkha for nearly a month. But no good has come out of it also. More careful examination will therefore be made. There is, however, no cause for anxiety. I am on the whole keeping good health.

What you have written about the Yoga of the vision of the Universal Form (in Chapter XI of the Gita) is quite right. But it in no way affects what I have written by way of introduction to that chapter of the Gita. The man who considers the whole world as the manifestation of the Divine Form will surely have vision of the Universal Form. But the "form" will be an image as seen through his imagination. A christian who considers the world as a divine manifestation will see an image that suits his imagination. Man sees God in the form in which he worships Him. A man born to Hindu culture and who has been reared in it will not be wearied while reading the eleventh chapter and if he is of a devout frame of mind he will have the vision of the Universal Form as described therein. But no such image would be outside the scope of his imagination. Whatever appellation— Brahma, Atma (or) Vasudev—we may use in respect of that Power (it) has no form. It assumes a form for the sake of the devotee. This is the *maya* of that Power. This is poetry. We can draw the same moral that you have drawn from it. We shall have to consider a dacoit also as a manifestation of the Divine Being, and if we can acquire this Power then the dacoit will cease to commit dacoity. So long as we have not acquired this power all our study and all our knowledge is but in vain. You have not asked for a reply from me in the matter of what you have written in respect of the vision of the Universal Form but have given a reply because I am also absorbed in such thoughts and it gives me pleasure to discuss matters with you by letter.

I have gone through " Vedic Vinaya " by Abhayaji and am now reading ' Swadhyaya Samhita " by Vedic Muni Hariprasadji. But I experience great difficulty in reading the Vedic *Mantras*. My knowledge of the Sanskrit language, as you are aware, is not of a high order. I am scarcely acquainted with the language of the Vedas. I know this much that learned men interpret the Vedic *Mantras* in various ways. The Sanatanis interpret them in one way, the Arya Samajists in another and the Westerners in a third way. I find difference even among the Sanatanis. All the Arya Samajists also are not agreed on the same interpretation. You must be remembering the discussion I brought about between you and Vaidyaji. Bearing all this

in mind, when I try to read the Vedic *Mantras* I fall into a confusion. I do not find myself competent to draw my own conclusions. I am of late, trying to learn by-heart the " Ishopanishad ". I believe Shankara has interpreted it in one way, Arabind Babu in another, and I have come across what you also have written on the subject while I was in jail last year it contains quite a different interpretation. I am now in possession of a Gujarati translation (of the same) and I find the interpretation given therein and in the translation made by Hariprasadji, also differ. I have, to some extent, arrived at my own meaning of this Upanishad. But my knowledge of Sanskrit is meagre and I consider it rather an impertinence on my part thus to arrive at my own meaning. Is there any book that would throw on the Vedic grammar and embody all the various interpretations (of the Vedic *Mantras*) made by different learned men so far ? In short, what should a man like me do to arrive at a decision in the matter of the interpretation of Vedic *Mantras* ? I have no faith in particular school and refuse to consider its interpretation as gospel truth. Fortunately or unfortunately I possess sufficient knowledge to make my own choice when various interpretations are placed before me. But I do not wish to have such a big library in this jail, and I do not also wish to enter upon such a profound study. The Gita is sufficient for satisfying the mind. But I love to indulge in a general study of the Vedas and so please given me some suggestions if you can.

We are all doing well.

Yours,
MOHANDAS

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 301]

Postcard, dated 17th July 1932

Addressed to—

Mr. Khodidas H. Shah,
Rojid, Kathiawar.

Brother Khodidas,

If you have taken a vow, it is your duty (religion) to observe it.

MOHANDAS

17th July 1932

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, pp. 309 to 339]

Translation of letters and notes marked 1 to 16 and enclosed in one cover addressed to Narandas Gandhi, Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad.

1

Dear Indu,

If you are well certainly attend to prayers. Sitting here I cannot know (anything) about your demand. Do as Narandas asks you to do. Has your life been made regular ? Can you concentrate your mind to study ? Has the confusion of your mind lessened ? Has (he) begun to understand his responsibility ? Think about all these things.

BAPU

Y.M.
17th July 1932

2

Male and Female children,

Why is the holiday of the 11th of the bright half of Ashad (regarded) a special holiday ? It has been, known so far that the holiday of the 11th day is for fasting. But Premabehn seems to have discovered something. Explain to her. My complaint is not in regard to the observing of the holiday in a new way. I want to understand its significance. A student should try to realise the significance of anything he does.

BAPU

Y.M.
17th July 1932

P. 309

3

Dear Madalsa,

The term arrogance is used in a bad sense, self-respect in a good sense. You will be considered to be arrogant if you are puffed up believing that you are a daughter of a big man. But if some one insults you and you are not frightened and do not submit you may be said to have maintained self-respect. Why some does not write a letter ? Why should Kamla write ? Babu must have been big now ? Does he want sweets ?

Do not be idle in writing letters. Ask Balkrishna to write.

BAPU

Y.M.
17th July 1932

P. 311

4

Dear Mohan,

It is good that you have written a letter. Now write how you passed the *Ekadashi*. Mahadeo Kaka sends (his) blessings to you ; and if you send bows to Sardar he also will send (his) blessings to you. I forgot. I see that you have sent bows to Sardar and so accept his blessings.

Improve your handwriting. There should be no spots.

BAPU

Y.M.

17th July 1932

P. 311

5

Dear Anand,

It seems you are again down with fever. Why do you not find out its cause ? Now you are taking Dr. Kanuga's pills. Let me know what is their effect.

You must continue to write even if you receive mine or not.

BAPU

Y.M.

17th July 1932

6

Dear Mani,

I would regard you never to fall ill, then how is it that you fell ill again ? You do not write letters now. Do you like to stay at the Ashram ? Why did you come away from the mother. Write to me everything in detail. Write also open-heartedly what your desires are.

BAPU

Y. M.

17th July 1932

P. 313

7

Dear Rameshwardas,

The adjective " dear" must have been written in mistake. I cannot make one my " dear ". He who wishes to be my " dear " ought to put on

a necklace on the neck. He cannot escape under the pretext of weakness. You appear to be a *pacca* Bania. You escape (bringing) in the pretext of weakness wherever (possible). How can such (a man) become my " dear ". If the observance of the fact of the 11th day is in name only God and the society may be humbly told that you have no strength to observe a fast. But you cannot fight shy of it thus. The few vows which may have been taken should be firmly adhered to and fully observed. From this enormous strength may be created.

How Vinoli must be happy. Make arrangements about Ram as he says. A father should not pass on his own weakness to his descendants. He must safeguard their interest as far as he can. Dashrath preferred death and allowed Ram to go out into the Jungle. Remembering this acquire strength.

Blessings from,
BAPU

Y.M.
17th July 1932

P. 313

8

Dear Sharda,

We do not know that when Bharat and Ram were alive people meditated about them. Experience shows that men are worshipped after they die. It is a different thing that they are respected while alive. This we cannot call meditation. A living man cannot be considered to be perfect. And worship and meditation are appropriate for perfect men. Harm will come by meditating of one who has faults or who is likely to commit faults, because we become like one of whom we meditate. I have no powers nor do I desire to work miracles as Jesus Christ did. How can there be any comparison between him and me. He was a very great personage. Write to Bhai to write to me.

Do increase your weight. Do you not see the difference between the formation of male and female bodies, ? The difference you see must be said to have been seen with plain eyes. A male has a moustache while a female has not. A female gives birth to children but not a male. A female sucks a child but not a male. Are not all these differences great and such as can be seen by all ? And hence there must be a difference in their work and education.

BAPU

Y.M.
17th July 1932

P. 315

9

Dear Kusum (Senior),

Received your letter. It does not cover all the answers. At present I cannot really remember the answers you gave to questions orally asked. It will not be proper to write anything as a result of that and hence I had made a note of them. But I would not harass you. I shall see what can be done from what you have sent. The picture that you have given of your condition is painful. Still I do not despair. I am confident that you are awake, and making efforts according to your strength, and hence one day you will acquire the required strength. I wish that you should have so much confidence. If you lose confidence in you the confidence of others will hardly work.

We all three are doing well, and remain well occupied with study. There is uncertainty about the post now.

BAPU

Y. M.
17th July 1932

10

YERAVDA MANDIR
16th July 1932

Dear Chhonbhai,

Received your letter. If just now you continue to remain at the Ashram for looking after your father then there will be no objection to his staying there, otherwise I am of opinion that the Ashram will not be able to look after him and at such a time such a burden should be allowed to fall on the Ashram. After thinking over the account received from you about his constipation I see only one remedy and it is that unless he observes 10-15 fasts at a stretch his stomach will not be cleansed. But he and you can only say if he has strength to do so. His strength does not mean his bodily strength but his strength of mind. Even if he observes fast some treatment must be taken side by side. That is, to drink good deal of water and take enema daily.

It does not seem that your father knows how to write, because the whole letter has been written by you. And so I do not write separately to him.

BAPU

P. 317
11

YERAVDA MANDIR
16th July 1932

Dear Shantikumar,

Received your letter. I had asked you to write to me anything about yourself, if you wished to write. If I can share from here your happiness and misery I may do so. I cannot write anything regarding the conference.

Bows from us all to (your) mother. Does any one stay with Gokibehn ? I had written to you some days back. Blessings to Sumati.

Blessings from,
BAPU

12

Dear Narmada,

If the facts you have caused to be written are all true they do credit to you. No human being can protect your chastity, you yourself can protect it. If you have full faith in God take it that it is protected. You ask the sisters to explain to you the first verse in the prayer for women at the Ashram. Though the prayer is that offered by Draupadi it is for the entire female community. Do not believe that it is a prayer offered by a woman one or two thousand years ago. This prayer serves the purpose of a shield for all women who may be in difficulties. I cannot say from here whether you should go to court or not. I cannot know. Many surrounding circumstances must be known. Hence you do according to the advice given by one in whom you have confidence. But you must firmly believe in mind that wherever you are taken whether you are kept and whatever calamity befalls you, the protection of your chastity is in your hands. Be sure that such a confidence will give you the required strength. And if you for ever wish to live the life of a spinster you must make progress with your study and keep your mind engaged in service of others.

Blessings from,
BAPU

P. 319
13

Dear Shambhushankar,

Received your letter. See what I have written in Narandas' letter regarding Narmada. In such matters I cannot give any advice from here. Where a pleader requires to be consulted, he should be consulted. This is wisdom.

After that if the Ashram has to do anything Narandas has full authority. He may do whatever his duty dictates. See the letter I am writing to Narmada.

Blessings from,
BAPU

14

Dear Prema,

Should you be considered unfortunate ? I had sent birthday greetings by return post. But my letter does not seem to have reached you at all. It cannot be said whether it has perhaps been despatched yesterday. But what is the use of blessings sent through a letter ? They should be considered sufficient if they come from the heart and they did certainly so come. We do not even know how the heart works. And that alone is true. Everything else is futile. It is necessary to take measures immediately for (curing) the pain in the back. It may have (some) connection with menstruation. Do you have your monthly courses regularly ? I have doubts in this connection with regard to Anandi, Mani and Mangla. Make yourself sure about this by talking to the girls. It is probable that the time has come for Mani to begin to have menstruation. I remember that Mani was three years old when she entered the Ashram. She must be sixteen years of age now. Mangla may perhaps be of the same age also. Ascertain all facts thoroughly. Ask those girls amongst the new ones that have arrived who know how to write (to me). Study the nature of Narmada properly. Her tale is distressing. I am not acquainted with the life of President Wilson. According to what I have heard, he was a good man and his aims were good. It does not appear that (the world) has been benefited by the last war. The influence of morality has declined. Enmity has increased. The tendency to fight has not decreased. Greed (lit. temptation) appears to have increased. Prayers can be offered by addressing the name of some individual or object. That also may bring about (some) result. But prayer without any such reference (to an outward object) is likely to be more beneficial to the soul and the world. Prayer produces an effect upon oneself. That is to say, the inner soul becomes thereby more awakened. And just as the awakening increases, the extent of its influence goes on increasing. What I have written about the heart above applies here. Prayer is a matter of the heart. Functions such as reciting orally are meant for awaking the heart. The same all-pervading power which is outside is also within. And it is equally all pervading. It is not affected by the obstacle of the bodies. We create the obstacles. Those obstacles are removed by means of prayer. We do not come to know whether the desired object has been attained or not through prayer. If I pray for the salvation of Narmada and if she becomes freed from misery, I should not take it for granted that it is the result of my prayer. This prayer does not certainly go in vain, but we do not come to

know what good result it brings about. Again, if our desired object is attained, it should not also be believed that it is really good. Here also, we have to put into practice the teaching of the Gita. Prayer should be without any hope as to the results. Even if prayer has been offered about some one (else) still we can remain without hope as to the result. If we find someone's salvation desirable, we may pray for it. But we should remain unconcerned as to whether we secure it or not. If the result is an adverse one, then also there is no reason to believe that the prayer has gone in vain. Is any further explanation than this necessary ? Remember that I have asked for a list of Urdu books. How it cannot be said for certain when you will receive this and when I will receive your reply. It should be our task to cultivate and realise certainty in (the midst of) uncertainty.

BAPU

Y.M.
17th July 1932

P. 323
15

YERAVDA MANDIR
16th July 1932

Dear Narandas,

I received your post which was due on Tuesday, today, that is, Saturday. It must be said to be God's favour that I have got your post. But you must take it that it has become uncertain now. Perhaps you must have received my post by this time. You all are also getting the experience of freedom from attachment (*Anasakti*) and we too experience it here. What can a prisoner do if he is not allowed to write letter or see visitors ? And if he has got a little freedom with regard to it, then why should he build castles of hope on it? Hence, if you do not receive my letter you must take it that it must have been due to some unforeseen circumstances. For my part, I will go on writing anything regularly. It was very good that the body of the Raniparaj man of the Ashram was cremated. You inform me about his age if it is known to you. You write to me what he suffered from also. The Narmada episode seems like one described in fiction. Lying here, I can lead neither you nor Narmada in this matter. Consult Mr. Mavlankar, or if he had no time or if he is not present there, consult Mr. Tulsidas or Fulshankar Vakil in this matter, if there is anything to be consulted about. Ultimately, there is the question of duty in this matter. Hence, you do whatever duty enjoins upon you to do. You have certainly acted properly in informing the husband of this woman. If Chhotubhai stays in the Ashram at present to help his father, then it may perhaps be said that his father is welcome to the Ashram, though such a practice that those who dwell in the Ashram should keep their helpless relatives in the Ashram, cannot be

allowed to be continued. The Ashram would break down in doing so. These are hard times. I have suggested this middle course, as his father has come there. If Chhotubhai alone stays, the Ashram will not take up the responsibility of maintaining his father. To send rupees 15 every month for the son of Hariomal if he cannot come to the Ashram on account of some unavoidable circumstance's, does not seem to be excessive. We have offered help in this way sometimes. However, the rule is certainly as you say. It is a matter for consideration whether the rule is to be applied in the case of Hariomal. You know more in this matter, hence, after attaching whatever weight you desire to my opinion, you may decide as you may think proper. It is not that there is any benefit to the hand by taking milk.

List of letters

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Indu. | 9. Kusum (elder). |
| 2. Balak Ane Balikao. | 10. Chhotubhai. |
| 3. Madalasa. | 11. Shantikumar. |
| 4. Mohan. | 12. Narmada. |
| 5. Anand. | 13. Shambhushankar. |
| 6. Mani. | 14. Prema. |
| 7. Rameshwardas. | 15. Narandas. |
| 8. Sharda. | 16. Individual Prayer. |

You deeply think over the sermon on prayer which I send. You will understand it quickly. And as soon as you have understood it, you will be able to explain it to others. I see from experience that instead of time being wasted in it, it appears that our mind becomes easy and we feel the burden of work or responsibility less. Nowadays I am thinking much about prayer. And in that I am thinking more about individual prayer. As for me, Rambha had made me accustomed to it from my very childhood and hence it had become but natural with me. In spite of that I see shortcomings in it. If entire absence of delusion is created in me everything else will appear to be unreal in face of its grandeur.

BAPU

Y.M.
17th July 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 329]

P. 123

16

Substance of a sermon on individual prayer, addressed to the Ashramites by Mr. Gandhi on 17th July 1932.

The one reason why no interest is created in regard to congregational prayer, may be that the necessity for individual prayer is not sufficiently realised. This prayer helps an individual to remember God while doing every act during the day. If many people form this habit, it is opined, there will be less sin, less wickedness and there will be purity in reciprocal dealings in the world. Also no special time is required for individual prayer. The effect will be that he who prays sincerely in this way will be in communion with God, that is, sinless.

[H. D. (Spl. Br), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 331]

P. 124

Translation of a letter addressed to Devdas Gandhi, District Jail, Gorakhpur, U. P.

Dear Devdas,

Received your letter dated 30th June, written on the back of the Urdu letter of Hamedali, yesterday noon, that is, on the 16th July. Nowadays my post has become very irregular. It comes to me after taking big round. It must be said to be my good fortune, that I get it inspite of that—what rights a prisoner has ? Imprisonment means absence of rights. As I take the meaning of imprisonment to be this I can keep my mind steady. Similar is the case with visits. For the most part you will be able to see Mahadev. But there cannot be prepared a time-table as you think. Either to take the risk of not being able to see anybody or to give up the lure of visits. I would have been glad to see you and Lakshmi if I could, but the step taken by me seems certainly to be proper. (Kastur) Ba will feel the shock the most. But she has taken birth only to endure shocks. Those who form or keep connections with me have certainly to pay a heavy price. It can be said that (Kastur) Ba has to pay the heaviest price. I have this much satisfaction that Ba has lost nothing by it.

As soon as I received a telegram about Vardhachari, I also wired to him. I also wrote letters. I got receipt of my wire also by wire through Raja. Yesterday I received a letter from Lakshmi to that effect; in it there was no receipt of my letter on the subject. But my post about that time went the wrong way.

None of us had the idea that you are to be released in September. It does not seem that you will be transferred from there, though I got a detailed report of your health from H. E. the Governor, that your health will not suffer now. The presence of Hanumanprasad proved to be much peace-giving to me. I find from Hamid Ali's letter that he had sent Ramcharcha also. I am reading it. I read the stories about, martyred Lad, Agriculture,

Alchemist, etc. It is true that I could not understand some words. Otherwise there was no difficulty. I have not got yet the book on Arogya, i.e. sanitation from anywhere. It will be better if Al-Faruk is not received from Delhi. We had a copy in the Ashram. I have asked for it. I will read it after I finish Ramcharcha. I like it. I now remember to have read it before. I find the meanings I had noted down in it. It is not wrong if this book is read two three times. You must be writing to Hamid Ali and others in English. You must form a habit to write in Urdu. My idea is to write a short letter in Urdu to him. His handwriting resembles that of a professional writer. He must be a professional writer. We have lost the art of writing. It is still preserved in Urdu.

The reason why I am taking milk is the—(persuasion of the) Superintendent of this place. He was disturbed and my health had a little bit given way and hence I am taking milk. There was no necessity for it. It was likely that the health would become normal soon. But I thought it wise not to carry on experiments here. I do not see any benefit of taking milk in particular for the present. The weight which had gone down had increased, that is, it is 105½ lb. It had gone to 103 lb. I do not see any effect of taking milk on the hand. The pain was already there when I was taking milk. But this pain cannot be said to afflict me. Because it aches only when the elbow is given a particular movement. When that movement is stopped there is no pain. Such movement is (almost) stopped. There is no cause for anxiety at all.

Vallabhbhai has begun spinning on the Gandiv spinning wheel and also the study of Sanskrit. When he heard that Raja was reading it, he became enthusiastic over it. He has begun the study in right earnest. He had sent for the 24 parts of Satvalekar's guide. He has finished (in six days) the first part thereof. Now he is reading the second part. His study is going on very briskly. The books by Satvalekar are on the whole good. They are easy to learn. Perhaps you must have seen and read them also. My study of Urdu, astronomy and political economy is going on. At intervals I read some religious books also. As for instance I read Vaidik Vinay of Abhaya Sharma. Now I am reading a book called *Swadhyaya Samhita*. It contains selection from the Vedas and other books, and below them there is a translation in Hindi. Mahadev is learning French and reads something else also. He writes for me if there is anything. He devotes one hour after Vallabhbhai. He also cooks bread for me. I take bread instead of the bread from the bakery. There is no chaff in the bread from the bakery, while it is contained in the bread prepared at home. That is the reason of going back to the roti. I am writing letters with my own hand because mostly while observing silence I am writing letters. I also get most of them written (by someone). Whatever I write I do not feel any difficulty in writing with my right hand. I am not allowed to write with the left hand, and hence

I use the right hand. I am writing the history of the Ashram during leisure. I hope to finish it in a short time. I am spinning on the Magan spinning wheel.

Jalbhai Naoroji can now move about. He has escaped just from death.

I have returned Raja's letter to you. I am wondering about your letter dated 2nd June. I will cause a search to be made here again. Whatever (blessings) you like from my companions.

Blessings from,
BAPU

Y.M.
17th July 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 337]

P. 128

Translation of the Urdu letter addressed to Maulavi Hamid Ali Khan, Jamia Milia, Karol Bag, Delhi.

Brother Hamid Ali,

Devdas has sent your letter to me for perusal. I am grateful to you for the books sent to me. I am still reading " Ramcharcha " (i.e. life of Ram). I have finished other books. All the three books have pleased me. There was not much difficulty in understanding them. Please do not send " Al-Faruq " (life of Faruq, the 2nd Caliph of Islam) as I have got it with me (here). But do send some other books which in your opinion may be quite all right for me. Convey Vande Mataram to all the brothers of the Jamea.

Yeravda
17th July 1932

Yours,
MOHANDAS GANDHI

I have not as yet got " Guide to Health ". I have written to Devdas about it. I am very sorry to hear about the burning of the press.

GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part 11, p. 339]

P. 129

Translation of the postcard addressed to Shrimati Laxmi, Gandhi Ashram, Tiruchengodu, South India.

Daughter Laxmi,

I have received your letter. Devdas had sent a wire to me in respect of Vardhachari and so I wrote a letter to you which you must have received (by now). Along with it a letter (each) was sent for Anna and Papa. What further consolation can I give ? All (our) sufferings vanish when we entertain no fear of death and consider it as our greatest friend. Why should we grieve since the soul is deathless ? This idea should be strengthened. Well, I hope Narsiham has not hastened to you. If he has, tell Anna that he should go back.

Blessings from,
BAPU

17th July 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 345]

YERAVDA MANDIR
21st July 1932

Remember us to all the friends.
If you at all can try to see Devdas.
He is so near you.

Daughter Mira,

I have before me your letter and postcard. The body will take its toll. We never know when we commit a breach of the laws that govern the body. And in nature as in human law ignorance is no excuse. Your fever therefore does not surprise me. I expect that the energetic remedy adopted by you checked the progress of malaria. Yet at such times services of friends become a boon and induce an early recovery. I know what lavish care is bestowed upon guests in Sivaprasad Babu's home. I am glad you are having these sweet experiences. It makes attacks such as you had not only bearable but even a prized visitation in that they enable one to understand human nature at its best. And when it acts equally towards all and in all circumstances, it approaches the divine.

Your description of Ganga is quite poetic. I felt much the same as you have done. And it was probably the same spot where I was walking. I wrote my impressions for N. J. This was quite 10 years ago I think.

Milk diet still continues. The weight is 105½ lb. It has produced no effect on the elbow. I feel no better than when I was taking almonds and bread. So far as the bowels are concerned I was most assuredly better under that diet than the milk diet.

I don't know when you will get this letter. The disturbance of my correspondence still continues. The incoming post has become regular but

there is much delay about the outgoing post. I am in correspondence with the Government about (it). I cannot understand this sudden disturbance at all. But there it is. Fortunately for the peace of mind I commenced my career as a prisoner even in S. A. with the assumption that a prisoner had no rights. If you are still outside prison walls, you will know why you don't get my letters regularly, if you do not.

Love,
(Sd.) BAPU

To

Shrimati Mirabai,
C/o Babu Sivaprasad Gupta,
Sena Upuan, NAGWA, BENARES.

[H. D. (Spl. Br), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 347]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

The letter to Devdas Gandhi being in vernacular is being sent to O. T. for translation.

It is for orders whether the letter to Mirabai should be allowed to go on. It will be noticed that he is informing to interference with his outgoing post and Mirabai is likely to use this information for propaganda purposes.

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES

22nd July

Secretary

There will probably be more fuss if the letter is stopped than if it issues. H. M. may like to see a specimen of the stuff that is inflicted upon us in such large doses.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

22nd July

H.M.

He says that he learnt long ago that prisoners have "no rights" Apparently he has the right to waste our time considerably.

Let the letter go, I don't think it will increase Mirabai's fever.

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON

23rd July

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 353]

Translation of a letter addressed to Devdas Gandhi, District Jail, Gorakhpur, U. P.

My Dear Devdas,

The telegram from Hanumanprasadji today, causes anxiety. It seems that there is an attack of fever again. It is stated in the telegram that the attack is a mild one. Hence I believe that by the time you get this letter you must have completely recovered. You must have received the letter (I) wrote before this. Still there is no certainty about the post dispatched by me. It seems that my letters take many days to get through (the scrutiny). The letters are being nicely scrutinized. You must be certainly careful of your health. Whatever the climate I believe that it can be kept under control by effecting suitable changes in the list. You write to me, why there was a set-back again.

It seems that I get my post regularly again. We all three are happy. Vallabhbhai is learning Sanskrit like an industrious school-boy. He devotes many hours after its study. He has finished two parts and is reading the third. There will no wonder if he finishes all the 24 parts within four or five months at this rate. Yet, it will be considered a wonder and a miracle if he begins to understand the Mahabharata and Ramayana in general.

Blessings from,
BAPU

Y. M.
21st July 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 359]

List of postcard addressed to Shrimati Rohinibehn, C/o Kanayalal Nanabhai Desai, Gopipura, Surat, by M. K. Gandhi on 22nd July 1932.

States that he (Mr. Gandhi) has learnt with regret the news of the death of her maternal uncle. Gives his condolences to the lady in her bereavement and states that no one should have any fear for death, etc. Sardar Vallabhbhai joins in the expression of sympathy.

CONFIDENTIAL

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part 11, p. 361]

No. S. D. 4996
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 23rd July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 618, dated the 23rd instant, I am directed to return herewith the two postcards written by Mr. Gandhi to Shrimati Rohinibehn, Surat, and Lala Mohanlal, M.L.C., Simla, and to state that Government see no objection to their being allowed to go on.

2. I am to add that the third postcard, addressed to Shri Maharaj Raghavdasji, Baroda, has been forwarded for translation to the Oriental Translator to Government and that a further communication will be made to you in due course regarding its disposal.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. B.,
for Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.
25th July

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 365]

Translation of a postcard addressed by Mr. Gandhi to Maharaj Raghavdasji of Baroda.

Maharaj Raghavdasji,

I have received the book sent by you. I shall go through it when I get time (to do so). No review (of a book) can be sent from the jail. I would, therefore, like to be excused (in the matter).

Yours,
MOHANDAS GANDHI

Yeravda
22nd July 1932

Original

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 371*]

TELEGRAM—Ordinary

To

Pandit Malaviyaji,
Hindu University, BENARES.

26th July 1932.

Thanks for looking after Mirabai and Devdas. Mirabai's fever causes anxiety. Please wire her condition.

GANDHI

Yeravda Central Prison
28th July 1932

P. 377

TELEGRAM—Ordinary

To

G. S. Bajpai, Dundalion, Simla.

Our sincere condolences on your bereavement.

GANDHI

Yeravda Central Prison

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 383*]

TELEGRAM—Ordinary

1st August 1932

From

Gandhi, Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

Kamala Nehru, Anand Bhuwan, Allahabad.

Alarming account press about health. Wire exact condition.

BAPU

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, pp. 387 to 417*]

*Translation of letters and notes marked 1-18 and enclosed in one cover addressed to
Narandas Gandhi, Satyagraha Ashram, Ahmedabad.*

1

Dear Padma,

I have preserved for you and Durgi pieces of coloured paper. It would be much better if a stay in a new land becomes pleasant. Your weight must

increase. If you get better there then there will be no necessity (for you) to go to Bhuvani. I regard it as a great improvement that your constipation has disappeared. What fruits can be had (there) ? What amount of milk can you take ? How do you pass your time ? What does Shila do the whole day?

I have not received (your) father's letter (of which) you write.

BAPU

Y. M.
24th July 1932

2

Dear Kusum (Younger),

You must be thoughtlessly speaking out too much. My post did not reach there and so you stopped writing, though you have written to me so often that you like to write to me every week. Do not speak anything hastily or thoughtlessly. Do not take a vow before thinking fully (about it). If (once) it is taken remember it and observe it. Has your fever gone ? What amount of milk can you take ? If you want to be a nurse recover (from illness) soon and pass (your) life in meditation. By searching for the cause of every thing any activity which we undertake becomes interesting and it does not appear to be burdensome.

BAPU

24th July 1932

P. 389

3

Dear Gangabehn,

I was grieved that I could not see you, but we are helpless in face of (our) duty. After putting a stop to all visits exceptions can hardly be made. How you can write and let me have information about your health and about Kaku also. Let Amina also write a letter. You must be all right. We three are happy. It is not certain that I shall be able to write letters. (We) have to suffer whatever happens. You must have seen Nath. Send (me) information about him.

Blessings from,
BAPU

24th July 1932

4

Dear Chhaganlal,

You all must have arrived at the Ashram in comfort. Let Kureshi not spoil his health which is improving. You also must have visited (lit. gone to) the grave of Imam Saheb. Let Kureshi write about that. If around (it) masonry work is necessary, let it be. Where is Kevalram ? How is he ? Ask him to write to me. Nirmala has stopped writing. I have not (received) any letter from her.

Write (to me) news about Dhuru (and) Vimla. If you have seen them let me know how they are.

BAPU

24th July 1932

5

Dear Prabhudas,

Know (what I have written) about Magan spinning well from letter to Narandas. I have nothing to say about truth. It is difficult to define God. The definition of truth has remained enshrined in the heart of every one. Whatever you at present believe, to be true is truth and it is your God. Worshipping this self-imagined truth a man must reach the extreme and pure truth and that is *Paramatma*. I am at present reading selections from the Vedas and there the same (idea) occurs. From my point of view so long as we do not learn to live a true life all reading is fruitless. Artificiality has no place there. The worshipper of truth will appear as he is. There will be uniformity in this thought, speech and action. By knowing God in the form of truth we soon receive this training. In order to live such a truthful life many books need not be searched. But the whole game comes to our hands. Think of this *mantra* (of the Isha Upanishad) : The face of the Eternal or Real is covered by golden vessel. O sun, remove that for me—whose law is truth—to behold.

BAPU

Y.M.

24th July 1932

P. 391

6

Dear Puratan,

Do not make much difference between Bhai and Dear. I do not remember how Bhai came to be written or (not) written. I have not made any change intentionally. I sometimes do think of what another man (lit. man opposite)

would wish for. But in your case I had not even thought of this. This much is true that he who becomes my " dear " has to bear the yoke. So long as I am in jail staying with me is not to be thought of. If I get out of the jail any day then you may ask me (about it). In short in case I sit calmly I would certainly have you with me. My warning was not meant to stop you from asking questions but to make you go deep into the matter. He must know how to solve ancillary questions after knowing the main one. So long as we do not know this it may not be said that we know the main question. This is like geometrical problems. If one is solved we must know how to solve others arising therefrom. Keep your health well.

BAPU

Y.M.
24th July 1932

7

Dear Kusum (Senior),

Received your letter. You say that Pyarelal is in good health while from a letter from someone else I learn that Pyarelal is much reduced. I forget in whose letter this information was. It would be better if you go and see him again. There is no letter to me from Pyarelal. I have written to him. But at present there is confusion about my letters.

Do you read anything ? You were learning English. What about that ?

BAPU

24th July 1932

8

Dear Kamlabehn,

It is good that you have come to the Ashram. How stay (there) quietly ? Does the Ashram water agree (with you) ? Do you receive any information about Gopaldas ? How is his health ? Write to me.

I have not received at present any information about Balkrishna's health. Is he still conducting the girls' school ?

Blessings from,
BAPU

Y.M.
24th July 1932

P. 393

9

Dear Chimanlal,

Received your letter. Sharda continues to write to me. It is good that she is staying alone. All our children must acquire the habit of living alone without their parents. Children depending on parents turn out to be weak in the end.

Perhaps deep breathing may prove beneficial for your nose. To inhale water mixed with permanganate into the nose may perhaps be advantageous. Did Dr. Rajabally examine it? If the nose is affected, a doctor's help is necessary. Otherwise cure will be effected by deep breathing. You will certainly let me know the effect produced by Vaidya's medicine. If the weather there agrees with you both do not get away from there soon. Chaganlal and Kashi must be liking the company of you both, and work has to be done wherever you are.

BAPU

24th July 1932

10

To

Shri Nandubehn.

Dear Sister,

When I was thinking of writing a letter to you letters began to rain from you, may be, on the Sardar. It may rain for any reason but it must make all wet. The same is the case with us.

I know that you were of a humorous nature, but I know from your letter only that you were overflowing with humour. You ask for my blessings, but they are always there.

You have been well encouraging the Sardar, but he is not a soft Bania like me. When he is inspired with courage from the heart then only he will do what he wants to do. That is the case. How he is enthusiastic over the study of Sanskrit, i.e., he has fully devoted himself to it. But there is no one here who can take glory for that. His teacher is Mahadeo. In addition comes the Gandiv spinning wheel. That also when it occurred to him. So the intentions you have formed to go share with him are useless. Yes, can take the share you want from his knowledge of Sanskrit. If you say, we may send the same by wire.

What a shame that a doctor becomes toothless as I am. Tell Haribhai that when doctor becomes ill in whom we should have faith.

You and Lilavatibehn have lost, it seems, a good deal of your weight.

Blessings from,
BAPU

P. 397

11

Dear Nimu,

You seem to be a very cunning girl. After showing that you have no time left you turn the tables on me and say that you would devote as many hours as I would ask you to devote. But I have already written to you that the care you take of children resembles the Ashram work. It does not matter if no note can be kept of that. If from that even half an hour—not to say an hour—is spared that also can be noted. There is no shame in it.

If Hasu sends Vinay here then it will serve your purpose as well as mine. There will be two girls instead of one. The elder girl has children. But there are two conditions. Either Sumitra may commit theft and be convicted, appear in male guise, be big after being drawn through a machine and appear to be sixteen years of age. Or she should have four instead of two legs and tail ! Then I may be permitted to keep a cat with four feet. Is Sumitra willing to become a cat with four feet and have a tail ? If so take medicine from Gangabehn who is coming there, grow (additional) feet and tail and send (her).

Continue to write letters. All your trouble must have disappeared.

BAPU

22nd July 1932

P. 399

12

YERAVDA MANDIR
21st July 1932

Dear Kapil,

Received your letter. I am sorry to learn of your health. I think you should quietly improve your health and while improving health whatever service you can render be satisfied with that. To ply a *takli* is some service. Educate the children who may be in your vicinity or conduct night classes for those who are grown up. This is also service. We should purify ourselves as we advance in years and should not allow a single impure thought to enter our mind. This is from my point of view, a service. And a man on sick-bed can do this much. You must indeed be observing the rules regarding prayers, etc. Do write to me.

Blessings from,

BAPU

13

Ba,

None can say what the matter is that you do not receive my letters and I do not receive yours ? Hence I have not written any letters at present. When it is not certain that letters would reach you how can I like to write ? I do receive information about you. Nimu writes to say that you appear to be losing strength. How is this ? Is the food digested ?

We are happy here. You must be knowing that I am at present taking milk. There was no special reason for taking it. The Superintendent here insisted and so I began to take it I also take *roti* and vegetable. Vallabhbhai has begun to learn Sanskrit, and has also begun to work the spinning wheel. There is uncertainty about my letters at present, and so it cannot be said what will be the fate of this.

Devdas has again fallen ill, but there is nothing to be anxious about.

You must have known of the death of Rajaji's son-in-law. If you have not written a letter of condolence write one. Blessings to sisters.

BAPU

P. 401

14

YERAVDA MANDIR
21st July 1932

Brother Hanumanprasad,

Received your letter as also your telegram today. I shall not feel anxious about Devdas since you are there. Moreover Devdas had written to me that you treated him in a very loving manner. The doctor is really a good man. I shall always expect to receive letters from you from time to time.

The man who resorts to falsehood with a view to acquiring worldly goods or for some other reason must be full of attachment and hatred (and so) he cannot possibly reach God. And I consider the other example you have cited as impossible. To tread the path of truth and (at the same time) to remain aloof from worldly affairs i.e., *Pravritti* is a thing which is (impossible) like a flower in the sky. How can it be said what path that man follows who remains aloof from worldly affairs ? To tread the path of truth in itself involves entrance into *Pravritti*. Without entering *Pravritti* there is no occasion for trading or not treading the path of truth. The holy Gita in its various verses has made it clear that a man cannot exist even for a moment without *Pravritti*. The difference between a devotee and one who is not a devotee is this that the one remains in *Pravritti* with an eye to the highest good and does not ever let go his hold upon truth while living in

Pravritti and weakens (the ties of) attachment, hatred, etc. ; while the other lives in a state of infatuation with *Pravritti* and does not even try to remain aloof from such demoniac actions as falsehood, etc., while in the pursuit of the achievement of his object. These worldly affairs are not a thing to be looked upon with contempt. It is only through worldly affairs that a vision of the Lord is possible. Those worldly affairs that create infatuation deserve to be looked upon with contempt and always shunned. This is my firm opinion and experience.

Blessings from,
BAPU

P. 403
15

YERAVDA MANDIR
21st July 1932

Brother Soniramji,

I am in receipt of your letter. I have heard many interpretations of the occult significance of the sacred thread. But all these interpretations are imaginary. I do not think that all of these ideas were present at the time when the sacred thread came into use. Those people who considered themselves to be Aryans adopted the use of the sacred thread with a view to marking the distinction between the Aryans and non-Aryans. This must have happened at the time when the art of making cloth out of cotton must have been invented. In ancient times as also in the present crores of people merely put on the Dhoti while (the rest of) the body is bare ; these are considered to be non-Aryans, and they really were such. Therefore the Aryans adopted the symbol of the sacred thread with a view to encouraging and improving the art of spinning and proving that it was sacred industry. I possess no historical evidence in support of this statement but it is only my conjecture. Today there is not and ought not to be any distinction between the Aryans and non-Aryans. An admixture of blood between these two races took place thousands of years ago and the present inhabitants of India are the progeny of such an admixture. If the sacred thread is to be worn at all, all (the castes) should have the right to wear it. In such an endeavour I see no sense. Hence, after giving up the use of the sacred thread I never tried to wear it again nor do I wish to do so. And the use of the sacred thread is a thing to be avoided so long as there is a possibility of its tending to create a distinction between the higher and the lower castes. I shall not fail to tell Gauriprasad to give up his infatuation for the sacred thread. The sacred thread is the distinguishing mark of a celibate student. If a person observes celibacy that (itself) is the best sacred thread. Why is a (mere) cotton thread needed ?

To keep the water in a well clean it should be covered with a wire netting. There ought not to be any dirt anywhere around it. The well should be

deep and (a certain quantity of) ' permanganate of potash ' or chlorine should be put into it every month. The quantity (of the drug) to be used should be ascertained from a doctor. In addition to taking these precautions it would be advisable to get the water analysed from time to time.

Blessings from,
BAPU

P. 405
16

Brother Pranjivan,

I am in receipt of your letter. Pollock writes that he is satisfied with Maganlal. His mind is engrossed in study. If that is the case and the same state continues, he will undoubtedly be benefited. Of late I have no letter from Maganlal. Ratilal appears to be going on well at present. In his case changes—good and bad—will continue to take place.

Though my left elbow was confined in splinters, there was no benefit. As it gives no trouble as long as it is not used in a particular way, I entertain no anxiety about it. The doctor here had been giving the treatment of diathermy at present. It has so far been treated thrice only and so nothing can be said about its effect. I hope you do not look to your shop overexerting yourself.

Bande Mataram from,
MOHANDAS

Y.M.
24th July 1932

P. 407
17

Dear Prema,

I have received your letter. It cannot be said how many letters I will be able to write now. The sword is hanging on the letters. If the delay which takes place in sending out the letters from here continues I do not see any use of writing them. Incoming letters are again delivered to me regularly now. Correspondence is still in progress with regard to the outgoing letters. If no letters are received it should be understood that my cart has stopped. But there is no reason to be anxious or disappointed at that. To permit or not to permit me to write letters rests with Government. A prisoner cannot claim to write letters as a matter of right. The writing of letters for so many days does not create a right and when we lose a thing to which we have no right, we should certainly be not sorry.

You have now received my letter of blessings to you on the occasion of your birthday. You need not care because you received it late. Perhaps the delay added to its value. In case it did not reach you it was not to be taken as an ill-omen. It is impossible that I should fail to send you blessings when I received your letter. It is no ill-omen if a letter is not received or is delayed on account of unthought of calamity. In fact there is nothing like ill-omen for one who is not devotedly attached to anything. So, you should not believe that your new year will prove bad. It may prove bad, if we think of, speak or do anything bad. And that is a matter under our control.

When the doctor is of opinion to remove the tonsils, then you should get them removed. I understand, the same was the opinion given before. The removal does not take a long time. I am not aware of any risk in it. You must be completely healthy. I think, after all one knows best about his own health. Doctors have to depend much upon what the patient says. That shows that if a patient does not understand the state of his health, he cannot answer the doctor's questions properly. What can the doctor diagnose by simply stating that the head is aching ? The patient should know why he is suffering from headache ? We know that same is the case in respect of many things. Similarly doctors cannot find out what effect a certain remedy produced. They have to depend upon the patient in the matter. But all patients do not detect the effect of the treatment. Food is a daily remedy for health. One who takes it can know its effect. So he who knows the effect of the weather, water and food, can control his health to that extent. Doctors cannot control it to the same extent. I, therefore, think that all of us must have a general knowledge about our health as well as about the weather, water and food. We have sufficient literature to acquire this knowledge. It is not necessary to read the whole literature. But it will do if some knowledge is acquired from it. Shivaji had made his body strong by his own efforts. As far as I am concerned, I believe that had I not acquired sufficient knowledge for my purposes, I would have died long ago. I am able to maintain my frail body on account of my care. I am sure that doctors have contributed very little to it.

BAPU

P. 411

18

YERAVDA MANDIR
20th July 1932*List of letters*

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Padma. | 11. Kapil. |
| 2. Kusum (Younger). | 12. Ba. |
| 3. Gangabehen. | 13. Hanumanprasad. |
| 4. Chhaganlal. | 14. Soniram. |
| 5. Prabhudas. | 15. Pranjivan. |
| 6. Puratan. | 16. Prema. |
| 7. Kusum (Senior). | 17. Narandas. |
| 8. Kamlabehen. | 18. Needlessness of supervision. |
| 9. Nandubehen. | 19. |
| 10. Nimu. | |

 19

Of these letters 1 to 15 are stringed together and 4 other loose letters with this letter No. 18.
Total letters 19.

Dear Narandas,

I have received your letter posted on the 18th instant on the 20th. But, whatever might happen to my letters. All my letters are sent to Government for scrutiny, and they are posted from here when they are returned after being censored. I have not still been able to explain to myself the reason thereof if any. I have been making an enquiry. Afterwards, let anything happen. We on our part should continue writing letters to one another regularly. They will reach their destination at their time. No thought should be directed over the matter. If the post is to be disallowed some day, some day, it shall be. At that time also, we will be careless. We must so make the condition of our mind. Tell Prabhudas to write a letter. The doctor has permitted me to ply the Gandiva spinning wheel with the left hand for the last two days. After spinning on the Magan spinning wheel, I appreciate more, the worth of the Gandiva spinning wheel. The yarn spun by me was fine, and there was less waste. I draw the thread with the right hand only. I will remove some defects from the spinning wheel and then it will give better work. While comparing it with the Magan spinning wheel I see that I do not acquirc speed upon it, hence I feel that the Gandiva or any other ordinary spinning wheel will be better than the Magan spinning wheel. The Magan spinning wheel is a valuable discovery for one whose one hand is not safe enough for drawing the thread or plying the wheel. It is apparent that one whose both hands are fit can spin more yarn. Finest yarn cannot be spun on the Magan spinning wheel. It is possible perhaps to do so, by effecting some changes in it. We might prepare one, making some improvements for

working with one spindle only. It is also possible that the speed will increase thereby. But all this is experimental talk. My experience about that which is before me just now is as I have stated. It can be said that I have acquired excellent control over the Magan.

It is not that I have been permitted to spin on the Gandiva charka, because there is improvement in my hand. But it is because, there was no improvement to the hand by giving it perfect rest from the spinning wheel. Behind it there is the belief that the pain may not be due to the plying of the spinning wheel. It will be clear in a few days time.

I like that Dr. Talwalkar takes two rupees for gharry hire and also charges for the medicine. It may perhaps afford him, if we put him to trouble once or twice a year, but he cannot afford to give medicines often, and get nothing. He has not got so much money also. It is my belief that we have been paying gharry hire for a very long time. One result of Dr. Talwalkar's bill should be that uptill now, we might perhaps be calling him through inadvertance even if he was not needed. Now such inadvertance must be given up. If we are observing the tenets of pure religion, we should feel the greatest hesitation in taking advantage of the service rendered to us when it is rendered free. But it does not happen like that in thousands of instances. As we get water free, we use it as we like. We are not ashamed of using it like that. And our mind tells us without any hesitation why we should not use it freely when it is available free of cost. And just as we remain careless about water, we act similarly in regard to other services or articles which we obtain free. All this is a breach of the principle of non-stealing. This is certainly a breach of the principle of ahimsa. I have not received the letter from Ba. I have not got a reply to the letter I wrote a long time ago and therefore, I have not written again for the present. I do not know anything as to what is done with these letters. I will write a letter to Ba again, and will enclose it with this letter. If you get it, you show it to the superintendent of the jail there, and give it to Ba. All those who have fallen ill on account of cold, must have recovered. Devdas had a mild attack of fever. There was a telegram to that effect. If Shanti is there by the time you get this letter, offer my blessings to him and his wife, and tell him that he has done well in coming there. Did he get my letter ? I had written to Rajkot. It will do, if you send the slivers prepared by Chhakaddas with any one, to Dahyabhai. There are other slivers here, hence there is no harm if Chhakaddas' slivers are received late. Is Parnerkar's health good ? Prithuraj must be well. From your description it appears that Shankarbhal escaped death. One who gets a fall from the roof of the kitchen, would seldom survive, because the roof is very high. Now his hand must have been all right. I have stated all my ideas about Sitla Sahay. You will know it when you get those letters. I have written about the Parnerkar's mother and also about Narmada.

The Jailor has informed (us) that the letter written by Mahadev to Durga on the 11th instant was posted on the 14th, but as you have not received it there uptill the 18th there must be some confusion in the post there also. You must understand that for the present there will be uncertainty about the post dispatched by me. Whatever may happen in future. More is contained in Prema's letter.

BAPU

Y.M.
24th July 1932

P. 417
19

Substance of a sermon on Needlessness of Superintendence addressed by Gandhi to the Ashramites.

By such a startling heading it is not intended to suggest that we can manage without supervision at present, but to point out remedies whereby it can be reduced and ultimately entirely dispensed with. In a religious institution the religion is so far defective as to need supervision. There is want of confidence underlying it, and this want of confidence is death to religion—self. It can be tolerated if one who does not finish his work and does not do it properly without supervision, and leaves the Ashram, but supervision must be felt to be intolerable.

A child requires supervision. Grown up people also require supervision in the case of work they do not know. But to keep a watch over another person in order to see that he does his work or not, is objectionable.

A note should be prepared of cases in which supervision of any sort is being exercised at present and then all high and low should be left to their own resources to carry on the work assigned to them. They as well as the founder of an institution should be conscious of the fact that God is the highest Witness to their actions.

Translation of a letter addressed to Kaka D. Kalelkar

P. 419

YERAVDA MANDIR
23rd July 1932

Dear Kaka,

I received your letter after a good deal of waiting. The contents therein is scored out at many places and hence I have not received full information

about your health. I have certainly written to Colonel Doyle, in connection with your health. I have suggested to him to send you here. And if he sends you here, your health will improve and along with that you may study astronomy and perhaps you may be able to write something. My suggestion is two-fold. He may send Shankar and/or Bal to you or he might send you here to me. Shankar is here. He certainly desires to stay by your side and serve you. I have not received a letter from Bal directly. But I do get news about Bal and other children. At least somebody writes from Visapur. What I meant to say about astronomy was that yours was a guess only. I had no idea that at night the time can be known by looking at the sky, or that the planets and the constellations of stars have any relation with Vedic gods. I am in touch with the views of Hiralal. I have read the articles sent by him. All this, is interesting. But my interest is entirely of a different kind. The idea of infinity, clearness, regularity and grandeur which we obtain while looking at the sky, purifies us. We might reach the planets and the stars, and there we might have the experience of good or bad just as we do on earth, yet the beauty which is in them (as seen) from a distance and the peaceful influence of the coolness which radiates from them, seem wonderful to me and when we bring ourselves in communion with the sky, there is no harm as to where we are sitting. It is just like taking the best of advantage wherever we are (lit the advent of Ganges at home). All these thoughts have made me mad at the sight of the sky, and hence I am acquiring knowledge enough to satisfy me. At present there is a small collection (of books) on the subject. Three volumes of James Jeans were sent by Prof. Trivedi. I have read two bigger of them. I liked them both. Now I am studying astronomy systematically. At present I am reading the book by Kharas. It seems that the writer has taken great pains over this book. There are numerous illustrations. They help me very much. I have read other books and hence I can take interest in this. If I had begun with this very book, perhaps I would not have liked it. No attempt has been made to make the book interesting. I will not write at present what sort of a book I should wish to have on Astronomy in Gujarati, because the ideas are being formed still, and hence it does not seem proper to prepare the outline nor does it appear to be an easy task. It is good that you are spinning less. There is no need of doing anything at the cost of health. Vallabbhai has greatly added to the industry of preparing envelopes. He spins ten slivers daily on the Gandiva spinning wheel, and he is deeply engrossed in the study of Sanskrit. He has sent for 24 parts by Satvalekar. It is a fortnight since he made a beginning, but during that time he has finished the third part. This progress might be said to be excellent. It is probable that he will finish all the parts within four-five months. He aspires to acquire as much knowledge as would enable him to read the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. Mahadeo has reduced his spinning by half. He used to take much time in spinning yarn of 40 counts. He used to get fatigued also. The

yarn of 40 counts which he spins is very fine. It cannot be considered that my left elbow is all right. But with the permission of the doctor, I have returned again to the Gandiv spinning wheel from the Magan spinning wheel. I turn the wheel with the left hand, and draw the thread with the right hand. I have not so much control over the right hand that I can draw out a very fine thread. But I am able to draw out a finer thread than one on the Magan spinning wheel. The speed has also somewhat increased, and if nothing happens to the left elbow, still the speed ought to increase. I see that there will be a duel between speed and the fineness of the yarn. At present, the writing of the History of the Ashram takes up (some) time. I have no desire to write anything else before I finish it. I am also reading Urdu, Finance and Swadhyaya-Samhita. Hence I will not be lured to write on the divine attributes. This is your idea and it is but proper that you should write on the subject. The history of the Ashram is taking a strange form. I feel the task to be a difficult one. It deals very little with individual persons I have written about the different kinds of Vrattas what they are and how they are being observed. Much has been written on non-violence, Varnashrama, i.e. duties of the Varnas, cult of the bread and celibacy. Perhaps it will be finished within a fortnight. I am keeping your suggestions before my eye. But perhaps all your suggestions will not be incorporated in the history. But I myself do not know what it will be in the end.

Blessings from,
BAPU

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 429]

BETHEL HOUSE
Mussoorie, 29th July 1932

My Dear Mahatmaji,

I would have written to you earlier but firstly I was rushed immediately on my release and had hardly time for anything left due to stream of callers, morning, noon and night and secondly I wanted to get myself thoroughly overhauled and my diseases clearly diagnosed and defined before writing to you about myself. Now after a week's stay at Bhopal this has been done by the help of Dr. Rahman, Dr. S. K. Sen (Pathologist and Bacteriologist) and Dr. S. A. Basit (Radiologist). I am sending you a copy of the report prepared jointly by Dr. Rahman and myself on the basis of medical examinations, radiological and pathological findings.

I am advised to go straight to Friburg (Germany) for the deep ray treatment of the advanced disease of the spine, pelvic and hip joints and then to Bad-Nauheim (Germany) for the treatment of my greatly damaged heart. Later, I would go to Vienna, to consult to eminent specialists regarding my

shattered digestion, and gout (the constitutional disease inherited from gouty parents). How long all these treatments would take, is difficult to say exactly but I think it would be some five or six months before I would be able to return home to India.

You can appreciate my disinclination to leave the country for such a long time and such a critical period ; but I am so ill and so utterly useless for any useful work that my stay here in the present state of my health is quite useless. And it is not possible to be here and remain idle. Any treatment and any recouping of the lost health under these circumstances is quite impossible. I am therefore forced against my wish and inspite of other circumstances to go out for the necessary treatment in order to regain my health and fit myself for future service and work.

I was really very ill when I came to meet you in Bombay last December. You would remember that owing to my heart trouble I used to pant and puff on climbing the three stories of Mani Bhavan each time I came and it used to take quite half an hour before I regained my breath and was able to talk or take any interest in the proceedings going on. And then the sciatica, which had commenced then would not permit me to sit on the floor for more than a few minutes at a time and I was obliged to get up after every few minutes when the pain became unbearable and walk about or sit on a chair. It became so bad on my admission to jail that I spent restless and sleepless days and nights for over a month and a half. It was controlled but not cured by electrical treatment. Owing to pyorrhoea, I had 22 teeth extracted in jail in over two months. In April and May, I ran a low temperature due to an attack of influenza and the heat wave sapped remaining strength in May and June, so that when I was released on the 6th July, I was white as a sheet due to anemia and so thin and emaciated (having lost 4 stones 4 lb) that I could with difficulty climb the few steps of my house and looked like a ghost of my former self. Dr. Rahman's treatment and my stay in Bhopal have greatly revived me but I am still very ill due to my heart, the advanced joint disease, sciatica and general weakness, as you would see for yourself, if I am permitted the interview for which I have applied (on the 8th or 9th August) on my way to Bombay from Hyderabad.

I am sailing by S. S. Victoria (Triestino Lloyd) on 11th August. I proceed to Frieburg straight from Genoa, on 23rd or 24th August then follow the programme outlined above. My permanent address in Europe would be C/o Thomas Cook & Son, Place de la Madelein, Paris (Tel. address C/o Coupon, Paris). But for the first three weeks after landing, it would be : Kurhaus Hoven, Frieburg, Germany. I propose spending all my time on the continent. Such briefly is my own history.

Now about Jawahar. I was fortunate to get permission to interview him on 26th instant. He is really quite free from any tubercular infection, which

was lately feared. There is just a little local pain and fine friction sounds in the region of the old pleuritic patch. But his temperature is almost normal and he is feeling well himself. He has gained 9 lbs in weight, does not feel tired after exercise and his general condition is quite satisfactory. He has had pyorrhoea for some time. I believe it is a little more advanced ; but that involves no risk or danger. I am enclosing the typed copy of letter I sent to Captain Falvey, Civil Surgeon, and his reply and the press message I have sent to A. P. I have also sent telegrams to Kamala and a detailed letter. This ought to allay all anxiety about Jawahar.

Now, about yourself, Vallabhbhai and Mrs. Naidu. I hope this would find you in the best of health. I would of course love to see you but I don't know if I would be as lucky with you as with Jawahar. Anyhow this letter would give you all the information, in case I cannot see you. Give my love to Mahadev, Vallabhbhai and Mrs. Naidu.

Your affectionately,
(Sd.) M. A. ANSARI

P.S.

I am afraid I have no copy of the press message I sent regarding Jawahar but you would have seen it in the press before you receive this letter.

(Sd.) M. A. A.

[H D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 433]

26th July 1932

Dear Sir,

I must thank you for allowing me to examine Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, to-day in the District Jail.

I went over the history of his present trouble along with the chart giving his temperature, weight, etc. I examined his teeth, chest and abdomen carefully. I found some pyorrhoea alveolaris and slight friction sounds in the area corresponding to the old pleuritic patch on the right side of the chest, the friction sounds were very fine and heard only occasionally on very deep breathing. The lungs were otherwise quite normal. Nothing abnormal was found in any of the abdominal viscera except a marked deposit of fat chiefly in the abdominal wall. The temperature, since his stay in Dehra Dun, is keeping generally near normal and he has gained nearly eight pounds in weight. Since his transfer to Dehra there is an undoubted improvement in his condition all round.

My suggestions briefly are : (1) the general lines of treatment carried out at present are sound and should be continued ; (2) for his pleurisy, I would strongly recommend either intravenous or intramuscular weekly injections of colloid iodine, preferably the former ; (3) his pyorrhoeas should be treated after consultation with an experienced dental surgeon (I would recommend Dr. R. Prakash of Mussorie) ; (4) graduated exercises both indoor and outdoor to keep him in a fit condition.

In the end, in order to allay the anxiety felt by the members of his family, his numerous friends and, public in general, and to reassure them that all attention and care are being given to him in Dehra, and that he is doing fairly well, I would suggest with your approval that I should issue the following telegram to Press, which I have privately sent to Mrs. Jawaharlal Nehru today,

" Carefully examined Jawaharlal except slight patch pleurisy and Pyorrhoea no other trouble Dehra Stay beneficial general condition very satisfactory."

Yours truly,

(Sd.) M. A. ANSARI,
M.D., M.S.

Captain C. V. Falvey, I.M.S.,
Civil Surgeon & Superintendent, District Jail,
Dehra Dun.

[H D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 435]

DEHRA DUN
27th July 1932

Dear Dr. Ansari,

Very many thanks for your letter regarding Mr. Nehru. I am glad you examined him and are able to relieve his wife's anxiety. You will find that all that is possible to be done for him to improve his health will be done and no stone left unturned.

I certainly have no objection to your publishing the telegram to the Press.

I am only sorry I did not have the pleasure of meeting you when in Dehra.

Yours very sincerely,
(Sd.) C. F. FALVEY,
Captain, I.M.S.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 441]

TELEGRAM—Ordinary

4th August 1932

To

Chhaganlal Mehta, 8, Pagoda Road, Rangoon.

God's will be done. Consolation to you and mother. Hope you will fully carry on all noblest traditions left by father for commercial integrity lavish hospitality and great generosity. Sardar and Mahadev join me in condolences. For me I feel forlorn without lifelong faithful friend. Continue keep me informed of everything. May God bless you all.

GANDHI,
Yeravda Central Prison

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 447]

Postcard dated 26th July 1932.

Addressed to—

Shri Taramati Mathuradas,
21, Mint Road, Fort, Bombay.

My Dear Taramati,

I have received a letter from Mathuradas from Belgaum in which he writes that, unless he sends for you, you should not go to Belgaum. Mathuradas' health is good till now. I have received the book on astronomy. Hope you and Dilip are well. There is no letter from you now.

Yours.....,
BAPU

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 449]

Postcard dated 26th July 1932.

Addressed to—

Shri Devidas Gandhi, Prisoner, District Jail,
Gorakhpur, U. P.

My Dear Devidas,

Mr. Hanumanprasadji sends me regularly news about you, therefore I am relieved of anxiety. I have already written a letter to you, but nowadays

my outgoing letters go first to the Secretariat and then despatched after scrutiny. And if they are written in Gujarati, they take lot of time and hence you do not receive them earlier. Therefore do not worry yourself if you do not hear from me or receive my letters late. Such are the conditions of prison life. I am however in correspondence with Government. How is it that you have fallen ill again ?

Yours sincerely,
BAPU

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 451]

Postcard dated the 26th July 1932.

Addressed to—

Shri Ramniklal Vimbashi Shah, Chintamani Building,
2nd Bhoiwada, Bombay-2.

Dear Ramniklal,

I have received your letter. I do not know your elders, therefore I dare not write to them. You can show (them) this letter. It is our religion to touch or to dine with those whom we erroneously call untouchables or of low caste. Not to touch them is a sin. I have not the slightest doubt about this. This is not a reform which has come from the West, but it is the duty of the Hindus.

Yours,
MOHANDAS GANDHI

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 453]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
26th July 1932

My Dear Henry,

I see you want your pound of flesh. I had thought that your partnership with Millie would improve you. But it is the old story of the leopard repeated a millionth time. Having seen one good thing in you, you want me to see many more. I must decline the invitation with thanks. For if I accepted it the result would be that my other companions would grow jealous and forsake me.

Devdas was always nervous when Maud drove her car. She is always high-strung and often absent-minded. She ought to give up driving the car herself. Please pass this on to her.

I am writing to Leon. His letter came into my hands before yours. Let us all hope that he and Marie will have many years of happiness.

I am glad Maganlal is shaping so well. Please give him the enclosed.

Love to you all. Mahadev Joins.

Yours,
(Sd.) BHAJ

To

H. S. L. Polak, Esq.,
5th Floor, Daves Inn House, 265, Strand,
London, W. C. 2.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
26th July 1932

My dear Leon,

I am glad you wrote to me about your engagement to Marie Lindrum. May you both have many many years of happiness and service.

My love to you both.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

Original

[H D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 455]

Dear Maganlal,

I expect a letter from you every, week but I am disappointed. Mr. Polak has informed me that you are getting on alright and that you are engrossed in your studies. I received letter from Manjula. Write to me in detail. Let me know what subjects you are studying.

Develop your body well.

Hope you are writing to the Doctor regularly.

Yours,
BAPU

26th July 1932

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 465]

Translation of a letter addressed to Mathuradas Trikumji, Central Jail, Belgaum.

YERAVDA MANDIR
25th July 1932

Dear Mathuradas,

Received your letter on the 23rd. It would be better if the weather there agrees (with you). Has any companion been given ? Are sufficient clothes provided ? I had received Popular Astronomy. I could not know who sent it. From the name in the book I thought that it must have come from Pranalal. It has so happened that a copy of the book has come to my hands for some months past. Shivaji (brother of Vinoba) of the Ashram has made a deep study (of the subject). I had written to him to send me any book he liked. And so this book came to me. So I have with me two copies at present. It has good maps, but the contents is not of much value. At present I have got with me better books (from the point of view of contents) than this. There can be no observation of the sky in this season. In September or October when the sky clears and the sun-set will take place earlier if you are allowed to remain outside till 7-30 or 8 you can observe the sky. I see that in regard to social reform your views go a good deal further. In this connection I have been differently trained. I would not discuss (a matter) which does not seem to be immediately essential and in which there is room for doubts to the smallest extent. Divorce is such a matter. One thing is that among crores (of people) there is no restriction as to divorce and where there are restrictions many things are required to be done before the stage for divorce is reached. And so I would not spend my energy in discussing the subject, and create differences of opinion among the people. My mind revolts in regard to birth-control. It is just possible that ancient ideas may unknowingly be producing an effect upon my mind. But the reasons for which I oppose are evident today and hence we expressly see the harm done by birth-control. In devising artificial means to prevent new generations to be produced those who are today able-bodied are likely to become weak. The whole series of ideas on which birth-control rests is dangerous and full of mistakes. Supporters of birth-control believe that it is not only the right but also the duty of man to satisfy his generative organ, and if he does not exercise the right development will be retarded. I consider this idea to be extremely faulty. In experience also I have been observing this fault. It is fruitless to expect any control of mind from those who have recourse to these artificial means. Believing that control of mind in this matter is impossible, the remedies for birth-control are advertised. To regard the control of generative organ to be impossible, or unnecessary or harmful is to my mind not to believe in

religion, because the entire foundation of religion rests on control. For arresting the birth of weak children there are many easy and innocent remedies. Leaving them aside how can a system like birth-control full of danger be made use of ? That there are dangers in it almost all people agree and so in whatever way I think about it it seems to me to be a thing to be avoided. I am inclined to write all this again but I have leisure enough to think and the subject being extremely serious it is necessary that you should examine it minutely. Then I have no fears as to whatever decision you come to. Because I believe that your open-mindedness will save you in the end, or if I am in the wrong you will be able to correct that mistake. If the problem of birth-control manifests itself clearly to you, you will not rest until you compel me to accept it. And I am sufficiently straight forward. However persistently I may be adhering to a view it takes no time for me to discard it immediately I saw faults in it or some one also shows them to me.

We three are doing well. At present I am taking milk, but I do not see if I have derived any benefit from it. I have submitted to pressure from the doctor here. Pain in the elbow continues. It pains only when it is moved in a certain way and hence there need be no anxiety about it. I have already written to Taramati in regard to visits. Besides making envelopes the Sardar has undertaken two other things, viz. spinning wheel and the study of Sanskrit. He is prosecuting the Sanskrit study vigorously. You may perhaps have seen the 24 parts by Satvalekar. Out of those he has finished three in 15 days. This rate (of progress) must be considered very good.

Devdas had again a relapse, but from the latest information I have received it appears that fever has again left him. He writes that the treatment he received at the hands of the Gorakhpur Jail authorities was very good. At present my letters are in a whirl-pool. Incoming post is being received fairly regularly but the letters I write are delayed a good deal before they are despatched. Hence there is no reason to be anxious if my letters reach you late.

There what is your diet ? Is the food you take digested ? What sort of exercise do you get ? What is your weight ? How is your sleep ? Let me have all this information. What are you reading at present?

I am progressing well with Urdu. I am now able to write a little. This I like.

Have you received the Gandiv Spinning Wheel ? Mahadev reminds me that you had written to me about receiving the spinning wheel. My memory may be considered to be failing a little. Can you ply the spinning wheel ?

Blessings from,

BAPU

Original

[H D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 471]

Translation of a Gujarati letter enclosed in the envelope No. 2

Dear Hamida,

Received your letter written in good handwriting. Abbaji has also been informed that you have improved in health. You did well in informing me about the death of Rohini's maternal uncle. Later on Rohini's letter was received. Though I have written to her a letter of condolence but I now do not like to express condolence for the death (of someone). Why to run away from death ? God had given us many boons and death seems to be one of the greatest of them. It is not a calamity. We should learn to regard it as a friend. That which is for every living being how can we regard as a calamity ? By so looking upon it we become offenders before God.

Like Raihana if you write letters to me both in Gujarati and Urdu you also will be an expert like her. You must write in Gujarati so that you may acquire the habit. I wish that your knowledge of Gujarati may increase.

It is good that you have developed so much friendship with Rohini's family. There is no doubt that the family is good and honest. But the certificate that you will give will be a true one. I am not much in touch with it. My salams to all there.

Many blessings from,
BAPU

Y.M.
26th July 1932

Original

[H D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 473]

Translation of the Urdu letter contained in envelope No. 2

Daughter Raihana,

This time I have not received any lesson from you. I hope (however) that you are doing well. I have received a very sweet letter from (your) dear father. I feel very glad to learn that the affairs of his company have completely improved. I hope his pain must have disappeared by now. It will take a long time for him to grow old. I hope to see him dancing (some day). Hamida's letter has also arrived. At present I am reading an Urdu book entitled " Ramcharcha " (i.e. the life of Ram) ; it is very well written (lit printed) and its Urdu is easy to follow. After finishing this book I intend

read the " Sirat" (i.e. the life of the Prophet of Islam). " Ramchareha " will be finished in a day or two. Here it has been raining heavily (lit. well). Convey respects from all of us to (your) dear father and mother, and also our *Vande Mataram*. Convey my respects and good wishes to your father over and over again. You all will be pleased to learn that Sardar (i.e. Vallabhbhai Patel) has started learning Sanskrit and he is making very good progress.

(With) Papu's
Blessings to Raihana

Dated the 26th June 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 483]

Translation of a letter marked (a) in envelope 1

Dear brother Hiralal,

I have received to-day your letter, dated the 8th instant. At present my post has become irregular. For some days I get my in-coming post regularly. The out-going post is still irregular. I do not know when you will receive this (letter).

You did well in writing about Shankar. I had hoped that Shankar would have improved. But after reading your description I stick to the adjective I used. The steps you had taken about Shankar were certainly appropriate. I think that he ought to have been brought to his senses in still more plain terms. There is nothing to be thought about him at present.

You must have deeply thought about Lili. I see from the account given by you that her mind is still not purified. I have taken courage to write a letter to Lili. Give it to her if you think it proper to do so. From this letter you will also come to know my views about children. I am grieved at this calamity which has fallen upon you husband and wife on account of Shankar. The responsibility for the faults (still) lurking in Shankar rests as much on Kaka as on the Ashram. As (the atmosphere) of purity cannot be made to pervade the Ashram the children as well as the grown up (inmates) do not become free from faults. It is my firm belief that where perfect sanctity prevails an unholy person must leave off his impurities so long as he stays in this atmosphere. So much also has not been imported in the Ashram. It is therefore, only that instances like that of Shankar are to be found.

I understand that there cannot be any change in your attitude towards Kaka. Kaka is exceedingly straight forward and out-spoken. He has suffered much on Shankar's account. When he hears this, he will feel intense pain.

I have returned the telescope in the beginning of this month. It was not permitted to keep it for more than a month's time. Hence, your suggestion was late. We could make very little use of it. We could see the Jupiter very well. But we could not get any information regarding the stars with the help of the telescope. We could not see the beauty of Parijata about which we had read. I will carry out your suggestions, when any other telescope comes to hand. At present the clouds do not allow us to have a sight of the sky.

I have got a Sanskrit dictionary. I am reading Kharas' book at present. I like his style. I feel that if anybody makes a beginning with this book, he would not find it difficult. It is, as it were, written not for those who have absolutely no knowledge of astronomy. But I have gone through other books and hence I feel no difficulty in understanding this (book). I hope to hear from your mouth about your invention sometime. In the meantime, please do write to me if there is anything worth writing.

Blessings from,
BAPU

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 487]

Translaion of a letter marked (b) in envelope (b)

Dear Lili,

I do not remember having seen you any time. It is possible that I might have seen you many years ago when I was out to beg. Although I have no direct acquaintance with you, yet, as I have connections with your father, and Kaka Saheb (Kalelkar), allow me to exercise some authority as an elder. But do not consider this my letter as coming from an elder. I wish to be your friend. I have known about the misdeed committed by Shankar. I am pained on account of that misdeed because Shankar has been brought up in the Ashram. Hence I have to apologise to you for his misdeed. You can accept my apology only when you entirely forget Shankar from your mind, and you may not henceforth be caught in the snare of any youth.

I belive that boys and girls when they attain the age of discretion, are freed from the control of their parents. Parents may guide them as friends (Bat) they cannot put pressure upon them. You have not attained the age to enjoy this freedom. You may not be knowing that I have guided many

girls like you, that from among them those who have followed my advice have become happy. In this world there is no vice (lit. dross) like untruth. He who conceals that which is not to be concealed acts untruthfully. If you believed that parents should not exercise their authority over you, but that they should guide you, then why should you write a secret note to Shankar or anybody ? If you fall in love with anybody, you have a right to do so. But many boys and girls nourish their secret passions only in the name of affection. If they take a vow not to conceal anything from their parents and act accordingly, they will not but be saved from such calamities.

Your present time is for study only. You have been fortunate to have parents of broad views, and hence they are affording you facilities for study. So long as you desire to avail yourself of this facility, you must lead the life of a celibate. But it is possible that this may be beyond your power. If it is so, you must consult your parents with a pure mind. There is not the slightest need to feel hesitation in it. If you do this much and if you give me a promise (not to do such a thing again), then only I will know that there has not remained in the least upon you the effect of the misdeed committed by Shankar. You give an answer to this letter if you get it. May God protect you.

Blessings from,
BAPU

Y.M.
26th July 1932

[H D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 491]

*Translation of a Hindi letter addressed to Lalita and enclosed in the cover marked 2
addressed to Sjt. Subbiah.*

Daughter Lalita,

From Subbiah's letter I have learnt of your grief and Subbiah writes that you have been weeping much. But you should know that religion forbids weeping. The God who gave the daughter has the right to take her away. And in the end we all are to go there. What grief can there be for that ? So forget the grief and plunge yourself in service (of others). Certainly write to me. May God give you peace.

Blessings from,
BAPU

[H D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 497]

Postcard, dated 27th July 1932

Addressed to—

Radhaben Gandhi,
Block A, Bhatia Sanitorium
Deolali.

I have received your letter after many days. My post has now become irregular. Don't take it as a wonder if it stops entirely. I am trying to settle this matter. I hope rain has no bad effect upon your health. I have received a letter from Mr. Suntok to-day in which he says that he is going to Kashi. I have also received a letter from Rukhi. She is now alright. She has seen Devidas. Devidas was not keeping good health, but he is well now. Tell Premkuvar that I do not remember to have received a letter from him. If I received it, I would have written to him in reply.

Yours,
BAPU

[H D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 499]

Postcard, dated 27th July 1932

Addressed to—

Mrs. Kasturbai Gandhi,
Prisoner, Central Prison,
Sabarmati.

You are getting worried about not receiving any letter from me, but I have already written three. One I sent to the Ashram address. This is the fifth letter I am now writing to you. We must realise that we are both prisoners. What would we have done if there was no permission to write to each Other ? To worry about such things is useless. I am quite well. I am now taking milk, bread and vegetable. Vallabhbai and Mahadev are also alright. I understand that you are feeling weak. I have not received any letter from you. Write to me in detail.

Yours,
BAPU

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part 11, p. 501]

Postcard, dated 27th July 1932

Addressed to—

Shrimati Rukhmini,
C/o Mr. Banarasidas,
Panch Ganga,
Benaras City, U. P.

I have received your letter after many days. I did not know that you were suffering from fever. Naturally in that condition you cannot write. It seems you have lost the strength you gained at Deolali. It would be better to regain your health. Hope the child is thriving. You have done a good thing in seeing Devidas.

With love to you both,
Yours,
BAPU

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part II, p. 507]

Translation of a letter marked 1 in the envelope addressed to Harjivan Kotak, Shrinagar, Kashmir.

Dear Harjivan,

Received your letter. I have carefully read your note. Your duty towards Sharda appears clear to me. If she is devoid of passion you should live separately from her. If Sharda does not desire it I would not regard her as being devoid of passion, that is, she ought to satisfy your passion. As you cannot suppress your passion you ought to form another marriage. Marry a suitable woman if you can get one there. It would be better if she is a widow; and then satisfy your passion. By so doing you would one day be devoid of passion. To-day this seems to be impossible for you. The cause of your anger is the same. Your organ of taste seems to be powerful. There is no wonder, inasmuch as anger, passion, taste, etc., proceed side by side. You believe that you have been engrossed in your work. I have doubts about this. This does not mean that you are careless. But the man who is engrossed in his work cannot be carried away by passion. Where would he find this much leisure. This is not your condition. It is clear that you try to be devoted to duty, and in the same way you try to be devoid of passion. But as you have not shaken off your passion you have not been

engrossed in your duty. While working, passions seem to overtake you. Was not my condition the same ? Others 'thought that there was no fault in my work, but I could see my faults and hence I came to *brahmacharya*. Read my previous letter and this to Sharda. I wish that anyhow you both should be relieved of this misery. May God be kind to you.

Blessings from,
BAPU

Y.M.
27th July 1932

Original

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 509]

*Translation of a letter marked 2 enclosed in the envelope addressed to Harjivan Kotak,
Shrinagar, Kashmir.*

Dear Sharda,

You have become emaciated. But I can understand your misery. I have already told you that in your company your life and that of Harjivan have been spoiled. If you are really devoid of passion, you cannot satisfy him although you submit to him. This is the experience of all vicious persons. The result is that in spite of having intercourse with you Harjivan remains unsatisfied, and hence his desire to satisfy passion increases. So if you want to live together you should take interest in having intercourse with him. If you do not feel that interest you should live separately. At present I see evil consequences in your staying together. You deceive each other, you deceive yourselves and also deceive the world. Except myself others seem to believe as regards your lives that on account of your stay in the Ashram you have been living together as ascetics. The best course of all is that you both get out of this untruthful life and that Harjivan may enter into a marriage to his liking. To my mind the lives of both of you are faulty. If Harjivan marries another woman I would regard his life to be faultless, because that would be natural and in the end Harjivan would be quiet. For this reform you both should talk open-heartedly and then firmly take any step which may deem proper. When this is done Harjivan would one day be able to be devoid of passion. In the present way of living he would continue to feel aggrieved and his passions go on increasing. Do not miss the power you possess, do not despair. May God help you.

Blessings from,
BAPU

27th July 1932

[H D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 13]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
9th August 1932

Dear Sir Akbar,

I am studying Urdu. Just now I am reading Shibli's life of the Prophet. But I would like to see the text books and other literature issued by the Osmania University. Could you please have a selection sent to me ?

I often think of our meetings on board.

Please remember me to Lady Hydari and the other members of the family.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 19]

KARIM NAGAR
H. E. H. NIZAM'S DOMINIONS
July 29, 1932

Dear Bapuji,

Although I have not your gift of letter-writing and find it difficult to write to people from whom I am cut off, I do want to send you a word of cheer during this time when, if the papers are correct, you are having no interviews and so no contact with the outside world. Most people in such circumstances would feel impatient, but I always picture you as perfectly at peace.

You will be pleased to know that there are at least four groups of people in this District (one composed of all Hindu, one-half and half Hindus and Christians and two all Christians) which sing " Lead, Kindly Light" on Friday evenings. It is quite possible that there are more. The four I know are connected with our mission.

I wonder if you received my letter in reply to yours. There were more questions about the Gita in it. I fear you didn't. I have also written to Mira about four times and had no reply. If you do get this I should be so grateful for just a p. c. to let me know whether you received it as it does not seem to be of much use writing if one doesn't know whether you are getting the letters or not. *I don't want you to tire yourself with a long letter again a p. c. is plenty.* Please give my Namashthe's to M. D. (I always think of him as M. D. since seeing his signature so often under Y. I. articles, etc. !).

My love to you,
Yours affectionately,
(Sd.) MARY (BARR).

P. S.—I have been reading some Tagore lately and am just in the middle of *Sadhana*. Have you still got plenty of books ?

P. P. S.—I had an interesting letter from the Private's recently telling of their " simple life " experiment on the shore of Geneva. They seemed to be enjoying it.

[H D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 25]

JOHANNESBURG
25th July 1932

My Dear Bapuji,

Medh is in India, but from all accounts is not likely to gain access to you. Should, however, he be fortunate enough to, you will, no doubt, get the story of events here from him at first hand. I do not know whether or not you get, " I. O." which would keep you " au courant". Manilal is at Phoenix ; Pragji is doing the outside work. I am lending such assistance as I can, in writing and helping them to collect. The letter is a hard task, for the mercantile community is feeling the pinch of the depression and, I anticipate, will feel it still more with the passing of the months. The tendency of the subscribers is also to look upon their subscriptions as a luxury that can be dispensed with. The future of the press seems to be somewhat doubtful. I feel that no effort could be too great to keep it alive, but while Manilal seems to share that view in the abstract, as it were, I hear suggestions from time to time of its closing down. Kallenback seems to think that such is more than likely. I have asked Manilal to write to you putting the position to you fully and clearly, for your guidance. If you are able, I should be glad on behalf of K. and myself, to hear from you. Manual's dealings with Sorabji appear to have involved Manilal in a financial tangle which I have no means of unravelling.

Pragji and I are in close touch ; and in regard to communal matters, the same is true of Manilal and myself. The S. A. Congress appears to be undecided as to the official attitude to be adopted towards the new Act and the Licenses Ordinance. The Transvaal Congress is also seemingly adopting a policy of masterly inactivity or indecision. Natal appears to be reluctant to jeopardize any provincial advantages it possesses over the Transvaal. Transvaalers whose commercial and property interests are likely to be least affected are inclined to sit on the fence and watch developments. The pecuniary considerations are, perhaps not unnaturally, weighing heaviest in determining conduct on all sides.

I am, nevertheless, of opinion that were a movement in defence of Principle to be started quite a respectable response would gradually be worked up. Pragji tells me that he can count upon a small number, prepared to become

sacrificers. I have a notion that the fire would spread—possibly, among those who have least in the way of belongings to lose.

We hear virtually nothing in the English press of happenings in India. As I seem to see it, the old jingle order is crumbling to bits. It is time.

How are you ? How is Mrs. Gandhi, I am still pulling in harness— making ends meet. Very tired of the stupidity of it all, at times, and looking forward rather wistfully to the long rest. Manage to get the body to respond fairly well " making ", as we used to say in our contracts of lease, reasonable allowance for fair wear and " tear ".

Do you remember that we are just about the same age ? And that " an revoir " may not be inappropriate in regard to the future of us both ?

With loving regards.

Yours as always,
(Sd.) L. W. RITCH

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 27]

association francaise
pour le
development de l'enseignement technique.

Paris, le 19th July 1932

Secretarie General,
M. Raoul Mortier,
31st, Rue de Bourgogne,
Paris (7).

Dear Sir,

The Librairie Guillet has undertaken the publication of a new Encyclopaedia, one of the purposes of which is to represent in its columns the intellectual elite of to-day all the outstanding men of letters, philosophers, scientists and statesmen of the different countries.

We propose to publish some characteristic extracts from the works, together with their signatures reproduced in facsimile. We are thus very anxious to be able to impress their leading ideas on the French public. I therefore venture on behalf of the Librairie Guillet, to submit to your kind approval the enclosed extract, in the hope that you will sign it and allow us to reproduce it in the Encyclopaedia.

We need hardly add that if you prefer us to use some other extract from your works in place of the enclosed or if you are willing to send us a few hitherto unpublished lines, we would be very happy to translate them and give them the prominence worthy of your name and high reputation.

We hope that you will accept a presentation copy of the Encyclopaedia which we will be very glad to send you as soon as it appears.

Secretary,
M. Mortier,
31, Rue de Bourgogne,
Paris (7e).

I am Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) COUNT P. LAUSDORF

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 35]

26th August 1932

Dear Mahatma Gandhi,

This is a little message of greeting and love from the four of us from the India League in England. We have such happy memories of the time when you and Mrs. Naidu and Mr. Desai met and talked with us in London. The body of friends you met then has kept together and has sent us to India to see things for ourselves and for them and for our work for India in England. As we are not allowed to see you, we send to you and our other friends in jail our warmest greetings.

(Sd.) ELLEN WILKINSON
(Sd.) MONICA WHATELY
(Sd.) V. K. KRISHNA MENON
(Sd.) L. MATTERS

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 65]

as at,
112, Gower Street
W. C. I.
London, 16th August 1932

My Dearest Mohan,

I think I wrote to you about the death of Nita in the Sanatorium in the Black Forest in Germany. I have just come through the strain which went on to the very end because everything had to be looked after and finally settled. Noger was broken down as well as Mira and the tragedy was infinitely deepened because of the situation between them of complete and final Separation, which could never be bridged over. Yesterday every single thing 'was finished and I had the great relief of knowing that Mira had

accomplished her long journey to Italy with Dhiver's aid quite successfully. I have been writing almost every day to Gurudev whose anxiety will be greatest of all. Mira wants to come back from Naples by the Lloyd Triestino boat which starts on August 26th. I do hope you have been able to write to Gurudev. I can hardly tell you what it means to him.

My own plans now are to go back immediately to England and stay there for the winter. Gurudev himself, I know, thinks this best. Kunwar Maharaj Singh wanted me to go out to him in South Africa but I wrote (with Henry's cordial consent) that it was necessary for him to find his own footing. The "colonisation" proposal in the agreement is evidently not going to materialize, I am thankful to say as the initiative is with the S. A. Government and they have taken no action and do not seem intending to do so. It was a "saving face" from the very first. But the Transvaal troubles seem now at last, after all these years of staving off and staving off, to be coming to a head. The very serious news has come that the Governor General has agreed to the Transvaal Licensing Ordinance and has signed it. At least that is what I gather from the scattered news I get. This of course is very serious indeed, so serious that it may prove almost fatal.

Will you give my dearest love to Vallabhbhai and Mahadev and yourself. You know, do you not, that Muriel Lester is bringing out a book called "Entertaining Gandhi" dealing with your East End experiences last year.

(Sd.) CHARLIE

I had a beautiful letter from my sister in New Zealand about my book "What I owe to Christ". She said that what I said about you and Mrs. Gandhi touched her most of all and she found herself crying over that Chapter. The "Be Ghadi Mouj" have asked me to write for their Divali number through Kapadia.

[H D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part 111, p. 73]

2, Cranbourne Court,
Albert Bridge Road,
S.W. 11.
Battersea 2400
August 16

Dear Mahatmaji,

I am staying in the country for a few days to get some rest and peace before facing the days ahead. The procession last Saturday was a great event. We walked from Kingsley Hall to Hyde Park carrying posters, and

ended in a well-attended meetings. Though our procession was small in numbers, it was arresting, led by young girl carrying a rough wooden cross, and ending with a poster " What would Christ do if he were in India today ? ".

C. F. Andrews is attending some conferences in Geneva. The death of Tagore's grandson has been a great strain on him.

Please remember me to Mahadev Desai.

Yours very sincerely,
(Sd.) AGATHA HARRISON

[H D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 87]

KARIM NAGAR
H. E. H. HIZAM'S DOMINIONS
August 28, 1932

My Dear Bapuji,

Thank you for your p. c. I am glad you are so well and cheerful.

It is a pity my 2nd letter went astray for the third did not show you my gratitude for your very interesting and helpful letter. Also I cannot remember now exactly the question which I asked you in the second—I have been propounding so many questions for you, almost every day since the beginning of the year, in my mind. What a pity it is that telepathy is not more fully explored! I know it was a question concerning something in the Gita. Perhaps before I send this, I shall remember what it was. Mr. Narandas Gandhi, when I wrote for a copy of your, " Introduction to the Gita " replied that he had no copy in English at present, so I have not yet received it.

I have had several lovely letters from the Privates. In one received this week Madam Private says, " My garden is doing beautifully and I am so glad that I have mastered a little the art of getting food from the soil by my toil." I'm sure you'll appreciate that point of view. She seems to keep cheerful and laughing through all their difficulties.

Today our training master, who teaches history to the training girls as well as some other subjects is absent with fever, so I gave them a little History Examination. He has been teaching them about you all this term with notes (all in Telugu of course) so they haven't got very far yet.

One question I asked was what work you did when you were in England as a young man. One girl thought you learnt about trade, and another that you learnt what to do with mad dogs!

They all knew the name of the town where you were born and doubtless could have supplied the date if I had asked them—and they all knew that you had a good mother, one of them likening her to the mother of Jesus.

Most of them thought you were very obedient as a boy and always remembered your prayers.

The chief characteristics of the Kathiawad people are that they love you and believe in every word you say.

The Indians of S. Africa asked you to stay on, after your first year there because you made good sermons.

(Later) I have just had a letter from Devdas he sounds remarkably cheery. He writes delightful English too.

I wonder what you will think of the enclosed cutting. I know the writer. One can't help feeling that you would disapprove of such actions, on the part of your followers, as the burning of gospels. Opposition to Christianity is very strong in Mysore State where this took place.

I have recently read your " Guide to Health " and agree with much of it, but not with your statement " those who once take to coffee and tea can never afterwards get on without them ". I have been accustomed to having both, everyday since childhood, but have had neither this year and not missed them in the least. How do you account for this ?

I have remembered one thing that exercised my mind when reading the Gita earlier in the year, but am not sure if it is the question in the letter that went astray. Fine as the teaching is, I don't find much in it to help the average " down and out " person. Expressions like this towards the end of Book IV—" when the soul masters itself, and cleaves to Truth and comes— possessing knowledge—to higher peace, the uttermost repose " may encourage people who are already searching for God, but I can't see any impetus which it would give to a very bad person.

(Later) Another question : I can't reconcile your saying in the " Guide to Health " that " 99 % of human beings eat more than is needed ", with the idea of India's " starving masses ", apart from those in America and China etc. I do not wish to cavil. It is an honest question. Hence I come to you with it instead of talking about it to other people.

It is that I brought this " scrappy " letter to a close it has been written in bits at different times of day and night.

You will remember, won't you ? —that I do not expect an answer if you are very busy with other correspondence or other matters or if your hand is not in good form for writing.

Greetings to Mr. Desai as well as you.

Yours affectionately,
(Sd.) F. MARY BARR

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 95]

Cables

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Office and Showrooms
52, Galstaun Buildings, Russell Street
Calcutta, September 6, 1932

Mr. M. K. Gandhi,
Yeravda Goal, Poona.

Dear Mr. Gandhi,

On my return to India I am taking the earliest opportunity to write to you with the object of inducing you to give the country the lead it much requires at the present crisis in order to bring about peace and concord throughout India which we all desire.

As was only to be expected, the Government award fails to satisfy any particular community, and I believe you will agree with me that the time has come the hour has struck, when India shall of her own free will settle once and for all her communal differences, and testify to the whole world her capacity for self-government. But a lead is wanted, some patriot who at perhaps considerable sacrifice will institute a calling together of the various leaders to achieve this result.

I have interviewed Mr. M. R. Jayaker, Pandit Malaviya and other leaders composed entirely of Indians, who perhaps taking the award as a foundation with the object of calling together a Round Table Conference at Delhi, composed entirely of Indians, who perhaps taking the award as a foundation, shall alter, readjust, and amplify the award to suit as far as possible the various communities. I feel confident that if you would give an assurance of your desire to do this, the way would be found for you to undertake this great task, which if successful would bring about to this troubles land an era of prosperity and happiness exceeding all our anticipations. I regret you were away when I called to see you at Kingsley Hall, but I left with your Secretary a copy of my book, which I hope reached you in due course.

I am sending by this post a copy of the Madras Hindu, containing an article by me entitled " The Future of India " which I know will interest you, as I have endeavoured without bias to set out the position in India as it is

today and pointing out how little real differences of opinion there are when we get down to hard facts.

With kind regards, hoping you are well.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) H. K. HALES

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 109]

ESTHERVILLE, IOWA
January 1st, 1932

My Dear Brother,

We read Dr. Fred Fisher's message to you sometime ago and your reply to him. We read what you said " If the doctrine proclaimed in the ' Sermon on the Mount' were practised by the human race, we would have no more wars " etc. Also to " tell America as the exponent of that liberty for which we hunger, not to forget our sad people in her prayers ".

We want you to know you do have our prayers, but it seems like the churches are carrying so much dead-wood, it is hard to get much action out of them. Men of a vast wealth are trying to get control of our government, and it looks like we would fight another time to make our people free. Although we have the best form of government in the world, the rich have been able largely to have their own way by fooling the people at election time. Our statesmen have become politicians, and lost the opportunity to lead the world in the paths of righteousness. Business is pretty much stopped here, because of the depression our foreign trade has disappeared.

My father was born in England in 1846, came to America, was converted and became a Methodist preacher in Iowa in 1869.

I was born in Garden Grove in 1876, Iowa, and when my father superannuated he moved on to a farm in Iowa, so I have been an American farmer since that time.

Last winter I fell down on the ice, and broke my left collar bone. While I was laid up, we read about your work in India.

God showed us then what he wanted us to do, and we have been waiting in the papers ever since, taking the part of the common people, as against the Pharaohs of this land. God has been wonderfully blessing me, and I have become greatly interested in what you are doing and believe we can help you to get freedom for your people.

I have been asking God to send you here to Iowa, the heart of this nation, to help us start a revival that will go round the world at present. Believe those Englishmen will, listen to me, because I am English and come from America. My father was well acquainted with Bishop Stuntz and left money to help build a girls' dormitory in India where Bishop Stuntz's son is working, so you see I am interested in India too. I am a "Minute Man, in the Methodist Church, for World Service". I know Fred Fisher ; am writing him today.

May God lead us that the West and East may meet, for there is no north nor south, east nor west in this New World of ours.

Am enclosing our last two articles, May God direct you in the great undertaking you have started out to do, and may we work together for the glory of God.

Wishing you the best year of your life.

(Sd.) JOHN HORSWELL

To

Mahatma Gandhi, Bombay, India.

Note—The letter is registered at Harris, Iowa, No. 206.

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part 111, p. 117*]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5963
HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)
Poona, 18th September 1932

Please "refer to the official correspondence ending with your letter No. C. N. J. P. S. R. I. 129, dated the 2nd instant, regarding the enquiry received from the American postal authorities about a registered letter addressed to Mr. Gandhi which was detained by the District Superintendent of Police, Ahmedabad, under section 15 of the Emergency Powers Ordinance II of 1932

The Post Master General, Bombay, has been instructed to inform the American postal authorities that the letter in question was withheld under the orders of a competent authority in India having the power under the law to pass such orders. At the same time Government consider that the letter should not have been withheld and I am to request that the District Superintendent of Police may be so informed.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
17/9

J. B. IRWIN, Esquire, D. S. O., M. G, I. C. S.,
District Magistrate, Ahmedabad.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 129]

" Bijapur District Jail "
16th September 1932

Pujia Mahatmaji,

I am endeavouring to send this communication through the jail authorities, in the hope that under the special circumstances will permit the same to reach you in time.

The news has naturally perturbed and shocked all of us and as the situation seems to be full of very grave developments, I have ventured, before it may be too late, even from the seclusion of the prison cell, to submit my humble suggestion, particularly after reading in today's " Times" that Mr. M. C. Rajah " The Depressed Class" leader has addressed to you, appealing to you to concede Reservation of Seats for " Depressed Classes " under a general constituency, although it may appear a little presumptuous on my part, to intrude in this matter at this juncture. Still I claim the privilege of a devoted and faithful follower and the extreme gravity of the situation is my further excuse.

Further I claim that my experience of a Joint Hindu Electorate is peculiar and unique, as I as a non-Hindu Nationalist, have consistently and most successfully contested for many years, in what may be considered as one of the most enlightened and educated Hindu Constituency of Girgaum Ward, Bombay, and with grateful appreciation, I must acknowledge that I have always received most generous support from Hindu Voters, of both orthodox and reformed Section, and so far have never once failed. Hence, I would naturally have a strong bias in favour of an unrestricted General Hindu Constituency, without any reservation. Still I feel it my duty, to submit for your consideration, my experience also as leader of both Council and Municipal Congress Parties, and as one, who has conducted several Election Campaigns, in the same general enlightened Hindu Constituencies in all wards in Bombay. I grieve to confess that my experience with regard to the " Depressed Class " Candidates is not so encouraging as my own, and in spite of special pleading on their behalf and although they were, in proportion to their backward condition, fairly well qualified and deserving, still I must frankly admit, that there is still a good deal of hesitation and reluctance on the part of even educated and enlightened Hindu voters, to support their candidatures, and they at times find extremely difficult to maintain their grounds, particularly where pitched against equally deserving and perhaps better-qualified Hindu Candidates of their own caste or sect. Besides there is also a strong prejudice against them as such in a fairly large section of orthodox section, though luckily that element is daily growing weaker.

To give you the most recent instance, in the last Bombay City Municipal Elections, 1932, the B. P. C. C. had put forward in all, forty candidates, mostly caste-Hindus, with only one " Depressed Class ". Mr. Devrukhker, a consistent and sincere worker, and believing Girgaum Ward to be the safest, he was asked to contest from that ward, few days Election Campaign, shortly before your return, made me really feel apprehensive that even this one seat for " Depressed Class " for the whole of Bombay, on behalf of the Congress did not appear to be secure. The plausible argument put forward was that when they could find better, more experienced and nationally inclined candidates from their own castes or sects, they would make a selection on merits, rather than support what appeared to them less-qualified and less-experienced " Depressed Class " candidates, on merely sentimental grounds. Even in the most modern Democratic Constituencies, money, social and professional influence and status in society, plays an important part at Elections and in that respect too, the contest for them would at least for some years to come, uneven. I only place these points, that have struck me, for your consideration, when you deal with Mr. Raja's request for Reservation of Seats for " Depressed Classes " in a General Constituency.

With humble regards to Sardar and Mahadevbhai. May Almighty spare you for many many years to guide the destinies of the country is the earnest prayer of all including.

Your devoted follower,

(Sd.) K. F. NARIMAN

(Sd.),
Superintendent,
Bijapur District Prison.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 135]

From

P. N. Rajbhoj, Esquire, President and Members,
All-India Depressed Classes Association,
Bombay Presidency, Branch Poona.
207, Ghorpade Peth, Poona-2.

Poona, 15th September 1932

To

Mahatma M. K. Gandhi,
Yeravda Central Prison, Yeravda.

Dear Mahatmaji,

We, the President and Members of the All-India Depressed Classes Association, Bombay Presidency, Branch Poona have learnt with profound sorrow that you have resolved to fast unto death if the settled fact of the Communal Award is not unsettled. We are equally sorry to learn that the Prime Minister is not at all prepared to alter a syllable of this Award. He has, however, left open one way out of the difficulty, viz. that if the Caste Hindus and the Depressed Classes agree to accept a particular formula he would accept it himself and would so amend the Award. Such a formula has, indeed, been already found and accepted by a great majority of the Depressed Classes, that formula being the famous Raja-Moonje Pact. Now it is no use disguising the fact that a certain section of our own communities would have nothing to do with this pact. The Prime Minister apparently justifies his position by pointing to the divergence existing between these two parties ; and strangely enough the impression in official circles is that this latter group is numerically the stronger of the two and therefore more representative of the opinion of the Depressed Classes in general. The fact of the matter is not that group is numerically stronger but that it has had given to it better opportunities of putting its own case at the proper place. Now, the strength of this group remains what it is for this reason that there is a vague fear in the mind of most of them that you are not only against separate electorates but also against reservation of seats. Interested parties have spread this version of your views among the Depressed Classes with deliberate assiduity. No wonder these foremost of them who have with the deepest thankfulness hailed your services in the matter of their social uplift, have stood aloof from this pact. They fear that without reserved seats their interests will not be safeguarded nor are their fears, we submit, all-founded. They certainly wish that nothing in the proposed constitution should be done which shall widen the existing gulf between the Higher Classes and Depressed Classes as separate electorates would certainly do ; but at the same time they also wish that some provision be made for safeguarding their interests which have good need to be safeguarded. We think that statesmanship lies in harmonising these two views and submit that the Raja-Moonje Pact has successfully harmonised them. If therefore, you declare your readiness to assent to this Pact most of these who have stood aloof from it or have joined the Separatists' move will come over to the Raja's party having his arms thus well strengthened, the Raja will be in a position in which position he is even now to request the Premier to amend his Award in the light of this new position. The Premier too will generously undo what he has done, knowing as he does, that perfect unanimity can, never be secured and may never be expected when divergent views hold the field. To bring about this change your wholehearted support to the Raja-Moonje Pact is quite essential. We therefore, request you most humbly to make this declaration at a very early

date and thus save the Hindu Religion from disruption and the country from the terrible strain which your proposed fast will put upon it.

We beg to remain Sir,
Your most obedient servants,

(Sd.) P. N. RAJABHOJ,
President,
All-India Depressed Classes Association,
Bombay Presidency, Branch Poona.

(Sd.) J. Dadaji Sonone,
(Sd.) S. A. Bajade (Secretary),
(Sd.) S. T. Pote,
(Sd.) L. P. Kadam,
(Sd.) V. V. Kamble,
(Sd.) B. Sonone,
(Sd.) R. P. Kamble.

Members, All-India Depressed Classes Association,
Bombay Presidency, Branch Poona.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 137]

THE FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION

17, Red Lion Square,
London, W. C. I.
29th August 1932

Yeravda Central Prison,
Mr. M. K. Gandhi,
Poona, India.

My Dear Mr. Gandhi,

This is not yet a reply to the letter you were so kind as to send to me in May on receiving the Poet's appeal. We were all extremely grateful for what you wrote and appreciated its significance very fully ; but though we have thought and talked long about it and have sought to bring such influence as we can exert, we do not yet see any way out. I write now only to send you a copy of the response to the Poet's appeal recently adopted by the

annual conference of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. We hope we may hear from you again.

With every goodwish.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) PERCY W. BARTLETT

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 139]

**COPY
PWB/HTP**

29th August 1932

DR. Rabindranath Tagore,
Santiniketan, Bolpur,
Bengal, India.

My Dear Poet,

The message you were so kind as to give the little group of Friends that came to Santiniketan in March has not yet finished its work. It was read in full at the recent conference of the Fellowship of Reconciliation held this year at Glossop, and the whole Conference, standing in silence, unanimously adopted the enclosed response, drafted at the request of the General Committee by George Davies, and desired that it should be sent to you. I am sending a copy also to Mr. Gandhi.

The Fellowship of Reconciliation is only one of the groups interested in our little mission of last winter, but it is one that understood the spirit of it as deeply as any, and that therefore rose at once in thankfulness for what you wrote. And Amiya Chakravarty will tell you what the Conference at Arley two years ago, where we entered so deeply into the need of India, meant to all of us, and will, I know, realise that the talk at Arley, the visit to Santiniketan, and now this message, are but links in a chain. What the next link will be is not yet clear.

Believe me that India and the next steps, political and spiritual, are constantly in our minds.

With every goodwish.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) PERCY W. BARTLETT

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 141]

Response from the Summer Conference of the Fellowship of Reconciliation to Dr. Rabindranath Tagore's message :

We have been present at the Annual Conference of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. We have listened in the silence of a deep sympathy and of a common suffering to the appeal of the Poet Rabindranath Tagore for faith, understanding and reconciliation between our peoples. In the great tide of political passions and antagonisms which are now sweeping over Europe and Asia, it is hard to hold fast to the rock of personal and spiritual realities and to continue to build upon the bare foundation of faith in Truth and Grace (generosity of heart). But the appeal from age to age, from East to West, from poets and prophets of the lighted mind unto this hour, increase our hope and faith in that ultimate peace of divine harmony which is the guest of great souls.

If the political masses and their governments are slow to attain peace as a policy, we believe that peace as a principle, transcending all accidents and frontiers of race, class, sect or caste, is all the more incumbent upon individuals and groups in all places.

From the small beginnings of a supreme faith in the patience and goodwill of God to humanity, we may each receive courage, through persecution or misunderstanding to build our own portion of the City of God and the Kingdom of Peace.

On behalf of the Fellowship of
Reconciliation,

(Sd.) PERCY W. BARTLETT,
Secretary.

5th August 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, pp. 163-167]

Dear Major Bhandari,

I would like the enclosed statement to the Associated Press for Publication forthwith, if the Government approve of the course.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

16th September 1932

The fast which I am approaching was resolved upon in the name of God for his work, and as I believe in all humility, at His call.

Friends have urged me to postpone the date for the sake of giving the public a chance to organise itself. I am sorry it is not open to me to change even the hour, except for the reasons stated in my letter to the Prime Minister.

The impending fast is against those who have faith in me, whether Indians or foreigners, and for those who have it not. Therefore it is not against the English official world, but it is against the Englishmen and women who, in spite of the contrary teaching of the official world, believe in me and the justice of the cause I represent. Nor is it against those of my countrymen who have no faith in me, whether they be Hindus or others, but it is against those countless Indians (no matter to what persuasion they belong) who believe that I represent a just cause. Above all it is intended to sting Hindus conscience into right religious action.

The contemplated fast is no appeal to mere emotion. By the fast I want to throw the whole of my weight (such as it is) in the scales of justice pure and simple. Therefore there need be no undue haste in the feverish anxiety to save my life. I implicitly believe in the truth of the saying that not a blade of grass move but by His Will. He will save it if he needs it for further service in this body. None can save it against His Will. Humanly speaking I believe it will stand the strain for sometime.

The separate electorate is merely the last straw. No patched up agreement between caste Hindu leaders and rival " depressed " class leaders will answer the purpose. The agreement to be valid has to be real. If the Hindu mass mind is not yet prepared to banish untouchability root and branch it must sacrifice me without the slightest hesitation.

There should be no coercion of those who are opposed to a joint electorate. I have no difficulty in understanding their bitter opposition. They have every right to distrust me. Do I not belong to that Hindu section miscalled superior class or caste Hindus who have ground down to powder the less in the Hindu fold.

But whilst I can justify this opposition, I believe that they are in error. They will, if they can, separate " depressed " classes entirely from Hindu society and form them into a separate class—a standing and living reproach to Hinduism. I should not mind if thereby their interest could be really served.

But my intimate acquaintance with every shade of untouchability convinces me that their lives such as they are so intimately mixed with those of the caste Hindus in whose midst and for whom they live that it is impossible to separate them. They are part of an indivisible family.

Their revolt against the Hindus with whom they live and their apostasy from Hinduism I should understand. But this so far as I can see they will not do. There is a subtle something—quite indefinable in Hinduism, which keeps them in it even inspite of themselves.

And this fact makes it imperative for a man like me with a living experience of it to resist the contemplated separation even though the effort should cost life itself.

The implications of the resistance are tremendous. No compromise which does not ensure fullest freedom for the depressed classes inside the Hindu fold can be an adequate substitute for the contemplated separation. Any betrayal of the trust can merely postpone the day of immolation for me and henceforth for those who think with me. The problem before responsible Hindus it to consider, whether in the event of social, civil, or political persecution of the " Depressed " classes they are prepared to face the Satya-graha in the shape of perpetual fast, not of one reformer like me but an increasing army of reformers whom I believe to exist today in India and who will count their lives of no cost to achieve the liberation of these classes and there through Hinduism of an age-long superstition.

Let fellow-reformers who have worked with me also appreciate the implications of the fast.

It is either a hallucination of mine or an illumination. If it is the former, I must be allowed to do my penance in peace. It will be the lifting of a dead weight on Hinduism. If it is an illumination, may my agony purify Hinduism and even melt the hearts of those who are at present disposed to distrust me.

Since there appears to be a misunderstanding as to the application of my fast, I may repeat that it is aimed at a statutory separate electorate, in any shape or form, for the " Depressed" classes. Immediately that threat is removed once for all, my fast will end. I hold strong views about reservation of seats, as also about the most proper method of dealing with the whole question. But I consider myself unfit as a prisoner to set forth my proposals. I should however abide by any agreement on the basis of joint electorate that may be arrived at between the responsible leaders of caste Hindus and " Depressed" classes and which has been accepted by mass meetings of all Hindus.

One thing I must make clear. The satisfactory ending of the " Depressed " classes question, if it is to come, should in no way mean that I would be committed to the acceptance of His Majesty's government decision on the other parts of the communal question. I am personally opposed to many other parts of it which to my mind make the working of our free and democratic constitution well nigh impossible, nor would a satisfactory solution of this question in any way bind me to accept the constitution that may be

framed. These are political questions for the National Congress to consider and determine. They are utterly outside my province in my individual capacity. Nor may I as a prisoner air my individual views on these questions. My fast has a narrow application. The " Depressed " classes question being predominantly a religious matter, I regard as specially my own by reason of lifelong concentration in it. It is a sacred personal trust which I may not shirk.

The fasting for light and penance is a hoary institution. I have observed it in Christianity and Islam. Hinduism is replete with instances of fasting for purification and penance. But it is a privilege, if it is also a duty. Moreover to the best of my light I have reduced it to a science. As an expert therefore I would warn friends and sympathisers against copying me blindly or out of false or mystical sympathy. Let all such qualify themselves by hard work and selfless service of untouchables' and they would have independent light if their time for fasting has come.

Lastly in so far as I know myself this fast is being undertaken with the purest of motives and without malice or anger against any single soul. For me it is an expression of, and the last seal on, non-violence. Those therefore who would use violence in this controversy against those whom they may consider to be inimical to me or the cause I represent will simply hasten and end. Perfect courtesy and consideration towards opponents is an absolute essential of success in this cause at least if not in all causes.

Y. C. P.

16th September 1932

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 173]

**MEMBER OF COUNCIL
BOMBAY**

I do not think that Mr. Gandhi should be allowed to publish a manifesto while he is a State Prisoner.

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
16th September

H. S. (P. S. G.),

H. E. has seen—this is not to be published while the writer (rather the author) is in jail.

(Sd.) C. B. CLEE
17th September

Not to be published.

(Sd.) C. B. CLEE
17th September

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 175]

Seal

GOVERNMENT HOUSE
GANESHKHIND
19th September 1932

Private Secretary to the Governor,
Bombay.

Dear Clee,

I am to return the enclosed papers, and to say that His Excellency agrees to the issue of the telegram as verbally amended.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) H. R. GOULD

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Secretary to Government, H. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 177]

SECRET

TELEGRAM

No. 168, dated the 19th September 1932

To

Home, Simla.

Clear-the-Line—

Gandhi has prepared a manifesto on the subject of his fast, justifying it on religious grounds. He wishes this to be communicated to the Associated Press. As we have agreed to withdraw all restrictions on his correspondence we have no objection to publication tomorrow. Please wire whether Government of India agree.

Bombay Special

Copy to—
H. H. (P. S. G.).

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 181]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
17th September 1932

Dear Friend,

I thank you for your wire and letter both received at the same time. I may not as prisoner answer individual questions. But I have sent to the authorities a general statement for publication. If they allow its publication, you will see your point covered by it.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

Sjt. S. M. Mate, M.A.,
Tilak Road, Poona-2.

17th September 1932

Dear Friend,

I thank you for your wire. It is not open to me to postpone the fast without a settlement. As for your question, I have sent to the Government, a statement for publication. If it is allowed, you will see your point covered in it.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

Sjt. Narayan Rao Desai, Topiwala,
President, Deccan Merchants' Association, Bombay.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 185]

TELEGRAM

No. 2070, dated the 20th September 1932

From

Home, Simla ;

To

Bombay Special, Poona.

Clear-the-Line—

Your telegram No. 168 of the 19th instant.

The Government of India has no objection to the publication of the manifesto provided the Government of Bombay are satisfied that it is not a document that would be liable to prescription under Press Act or Ordinance.

[True Copy]

(Sd.) ,
Assistant Superintendent,
H.D. (Spl.).

20th September 1932

07-35 hrs.

Received—0-3-45 hrs.

Decoded—07-35 hrs.

Copies to—

H. E. (P. S. G.),
H. M., H. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 189]

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEGRAM

No. 2092, dated the 21st September 1932

From

Home, Simla;

To

Bombay Special, Poona.

Following private and personal telegram No. 2435, dated the 20th September 1932, from the Secretary of State:

" *Times* and other papers say that Gandhi complains of Government not having released a document setting out his terms. Can you say what this refers to ? "

2. Presume this refers to the manifesto referred to in your telegram No. 168, dated the 19th September. Presume also that this has been allowed to issue.

Please send a reply direct to the Secretary of State with a copy to us.

[True Copy]

(Sd.),

Assistant Superintendent,

H. D. (Spl.).

21st September 1932

19-55 hrs.

Copies to—

H. E. (P. S. G.),

H. M., H. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 191]

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEGRAM

No. 172, dated the 21st September 1932

To

Resultiamo, London.

Repeated to—

Home, Simla.

Your private and personal telegram No. 2435 of September 20th to Viceroy. Document referred to in *Times* and other papers is probably manifesto prepared by Gandhi on subject to his fast justifying it on religious

grounds. He wished manifesto to be communicated to Associated Press but Bombay Government considered it undesirable that it should be published so long as Gandhi was a State prisoner. In view however of policy agreed to by Government of Bombay to withdraw all restrictions on Gandhi's correspondence, manifesto was communicated to Associated Press in Bombay for publication on September 21st.

Addressed Secretary of State, repeated to Home, Simla, with reference to your telegram No. 2992 of September 21st.

Bombay Special

Issued.

(Sd.) L. T. B.
21st September 1932
22-00 hrs.

Copies to—

H. E. (P. S. G.),
H. M., H. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 195]

KARIM NAGAR

H. E. H. NIZAM'S DOMINIONS

September 20, 1932

Dear Bapuji,

Now that I know what fateful decisions have been in your mind I feel rather rebuked for sending you such a "chatty" letter at the beginning of the month.

I can understand the happy tone of your correspondence which not only I, but others to whom you have written, have noticed. I know, from personal experience, the peaceful feeling which comes from making some decision (even in small matters) to which I have been guided by God.

The day I heard of your decision, my devotional reading included this except from Bunyan—as one before—it gave me a word from Milton which seemed to apply to you. This is the cutting from "The Pilgrim's Progress".

"After this it was noised abroad that Mr. Valiant-for-truth was taken with a summons. Then said he, 'I am going to my fathers, and though with great difficulty I am got hither, yet now I do not repent me of all the trouble I have been at to arrive where I am. My sword I give to him that shall succeed me in my pilgrimage, and my courage and skill to him that can get it. My marks and scars I carry with me to be a witness for me that I have fought His battles who now will be my rewarder'. When the

day that he must go hence was come, many accompanied him to the riverside, into which as he went he said."

" Death, where is thy sting ? " And as he went down deeper he said " Grave where is thy victory ? " So he passed over and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side.

Thus I picture your passing but pray fervently that it may not be for many years yet.

With love and confidence.

Your affectionately,

MARY

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 201*]

3rd October 1932

Dear Mr. Bartlett,

I thank you for your letter enclosing copies of your letter to the Poet and the response from the Fellowship. I am quite sure that the Fellowship is exerting itself in the cause of peace.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

Percy W. Bartlett, Esqr.,
17, Red Lion, Square, London, W. C. 1.

3rd October 1932

My Dear Samuel,

I was glad to hear from your. I do not know what I a prisoner can do for you. But if your children will take to the Indian life, it is possible they may be admitted to the Ashram at Sabarmati.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

Samuel Francis, Esqr.,
C/o. J. T. Christian, Esqr.,
8, Mark Lane, East London,
South Africa.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 215]

H. K. HALES

Office and Showrooms:

52, Galstaun Buildings, Russell Street,

Calcutta, September 27, 1932

Dear Mr. Gandhi,

Permit me to congratulate you on the magnificent work you have done, happily without the sacrifice of your life, in removing the reproach of centuries against the Hindu race.

You have indeed performed a twentieth century miracle, and shown the world that the phrase " THE UNCHANGING EAST " is without meaning today.

It is surely an illustration of the saying that " Faith can remove mountains", and your steadfast faith in your people once roused to the realisation and seriousness of the position could not fail to achieve the desired result.

But you must I feel sure agree with me that your work is only partly accomplished. The great Hindu-Moslem problem still remains like a great boulder in the pass. Before India can present a united front and take her place amongst the nations of the world, this great task must be undertaken.

Surely at this moment, when your sacrifice has been so triumphantly vindicated, shall it be said that the leaders of the various Indian Communities, shall not of their own accord, foregather at a Round Table Conference, of Indians only, and with a vow never to separate until the Hindu-Moslem problem has been as successfully dealt with as the Hindu depressed classes, this great work shall be brought to fruition, and India for the first time in its existence attain to its full strength and manhood and enter into a new era of prosperity.

Send out a clarion call to those Indian patriots who need but the trumpet blast to enshrine themselves like you in the hearts of the Indian people, and generations yet unborn may bless their name.

With every good wish for your early convalescence and freedom.

I remain very sincerely yours,

(Sd.) HAROLD K. HALES

Did you get my book I left at Kingsley Hall ?

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 217*]

CALCUTTA
September 30, 1932

Mahatmaji,

Our people are wonder-struck at the impossible being made possible in these few days and there is a universal feeling of immense relief at your being saved for us. Now is the opportune moment when a definite command from you will rouse the Hindu Community to make a desperate effort to win over the Mahomedans to our common cause. It is even more difficult of success than your fight against untouchability, for there is a deep rooted antipathy against the Muslims in most of our people and they also have not much love for ourselves. But you know how to move the hearts of those that are obdurate, and only you, I am sure, have the patient love that can conquer the hatred that has accumulated for ages. I do not know how to calculate political consequences but I believe that nothing can be too costly which would enable us to win their confidence and convince them that we understand their difficulties and their own point of view. However, it is not for me to advise you and I shall fully rely upon your own judgment as to the course that should be taken. Only one suggestion I must venture to make to you that you might ask the Hindu Mahasabha to make a conciliatory gesture towards the other party.

I have no doubt that you are gaining strength and inspiring every moment strength and hope around you.

With reverent love,
I am,
Ever yours,
(Sd.) RABINDRANATH TAGORE

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, pp. 223-224*]

9th October 1932

(1)

Dear Dr. Mahmud,

I have your two letters the only ones to be received by me. I hope you had my note sent thro' Kamala. Tell the four-year old dame that she was forgiven for not completing her fast. Prayers of little ones are better than their fasts. Who knows but that it was such prayers that were answered. Well, the whole time the fast was on, I was thinking too of the Hindu-Muslim question and asking God to give me light. How I wish your Maulana Abul Kalam's and Malaviyaji's efforts fructified. It would be a grand day if we could achieve not a paper but a heart unity.

I am glad your wife and sisters are better. You too must be well now or you must have a compulsory fast for regaining health.

My salaams to both the Maulanas.

Love from us all.

(Sd.) BAPU

(2)

To

Dr. Syed Mahmud.

9th October 1932

Dear Friend,

No need whatsoever for apology. I hope you received my previous letter in reply to your earlier letter.

There are insurmountable difficulties about adopting the way you suggest. As a prisoner I am not free to discuss them. But if it was open to me to discuss them, I think you would be convinced of the soundness of my reason. But this I can say that no one can be more eager than I am to see peace established between the Government and the people or the Congress.

I hope you are keeping well.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

Sjt. C. Y. Chintamani,
" The Leader " Office, Allahabad.

(3)

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

9th October 1932

Dear Gurudev,

I have your beautiful letter. I am daily seeking light. This unity between Hindus and Muslims is also life's mission. The restrictions too hamper me. But I know that when I have the light, it will pierce through the restrictions. Meanwhile I pray though I do not yet fast.

I hope you were none the worse for the strenuous work in Poona and equally fatiguing journey.

Mahadev translated for us your beautiful sermon to the villagers on 20th ultimo.

With love.

Yours,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

Shri Gurudev,
Shantiniketan, Bengal.

(4)

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
9th October 1932

Dear Friends,

I thank you for your letter of sympathy. The funds can be sent to the anti-untouchability association formed under the chairmanship of Sjt. G. D. Birla for the furtherance of its objects.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

Joint Hon. Secretaries,
Friends of India, 46, Lancaster Gate,
London, W. 2.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 229]

C/o. ABDULLA HAROON JAFFER, ESQR.
SAIFI LANE—EAST STREET
Poona, 8th October 1932

My Dear Mahatmaji,

I am in receipt of your postcard of the 6th instant, and note that you intend replying in 2 to 3 days to my long letter of the 23rd ultimo.

Meanwhile, as advised in your postcard referred to above, I approached the Home Member, but from the conversation I had with him, it appears that the authority for granting an interview rests with the Government of India, and as I do not wish to go to that length, I have kept back the question of Shri Baba's message pending further instructions from him, and am enclosing herewith copy of publicity matter referred to in the last paragraph of my letter to you dated the 23rd ultimo, for your perusal, correction and approval, before it is submitted for publication in the press. You are at liberty to make any addition or alteration in it, as you may deem fit.

I may add that Shri Baba himself is averse to all publicity as usual, but as the demand from the press and the public is pressing, and again as it is very necessary to clear all misunderstandings already existing in the minds of the public through distorted reports that have already appeared in papers, and also considering your own suggestion in the matter, we have deemed it advisable to publish a short account of Shri Baba's interviews with Societies, press and public in Europe and in America during his tours in the West,

as well as an account of your meetings and talks with him on spiritual subjects—which the press consider as a matter of special significance and importance.

But for unavoidable circumstances as you can well realize, I would never have given you this trouble for which you will kindly excuse.

Requesting the favour of your kindly returning the papers at your earliest convenience, as the other press matter is also withheld for this.

With best wishes,
I am,
Yours very sincerely,
(Sd.) F. H. DADACHANJI

P.S.—

I am leaving here tomorrow, so you will please address all correspondence care Sarosh Motor Works Ltd., Nasik.

(Sd.) F. H. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, pp. 231-233]

Extract from the " publicity matter" referred to in Mr. F. H. Dadachanji's letter, dated the 8th October 1932.

Bombay Meeting

Earlier on the night of his arrest, Baba saw Gandhiji at Mani Bhuvan at about 11-45, and talked for about an hour.

B. I have been very busy the whole day, but I had to come to you.

G. If you had not come, it would have been my life-long grievance against you.

B. Your arrest is imminent. I could not take chances of further delay. Hence I am here to-night, though at such a late hour.

G. It is kind of you to come. You know I could not have come to you being surrounded by people who are so very excited.

B. It would be much better for you to see the Viceroy again. The excitement will subside, and situation will become much easier to handle.

G. I too want to go, but he (the Viceroy) lays down conditions impossible for me to comply with. The question of Ordinances is a tabooed subject, while from (my) viewpoint, it is the main issue, and the very basis of my arguments.

-
- B. But in spite of it all, in order to curb the excitement and to prevent the situation developing into violence it is better to see the Viceroy. When once violence gets the upper hand the situation will be simply uncontrollable.
- G. There is that possibility, but we are not counting without that. We have been advocating and preaching non-violence even when at war, and the result rests with the Almighty.
- B. Under any circumstances, India is destined to suffer still more. I have said the same before and I repeat it today. But eventually this suffering will prove a blessing in disguise. The more India suffers materially, the better it is from the spiritual standpoint. I look to the spiritual benefit alone. If India were to achieve Self-Government without struggle and sufferings, it would involve a greater risk of being inclined towards materialism, and this would ultimately prove a hindrance and an obstacle towards the spiritual advancement. This danger must be guarded against.
- G. You are right, spiritual strength must accompany material power and therein lies the real greatness. What do you think of the West ?
- B. In America, the spiritual hunger is intense, and that is why I stayed there for a month. From the material point of view, there is everything there that could be expected wealth, brains and the heart with a latent longing for Truth. And this connotes sufficient preparedness for spiritual growth and development. Under proper guidance and direction, I am sure, that would respond wonderfully.
- G. And what about England?
- B. They also have interest and longing for spirituality, but not as intense as the Americans. The latter would not allow me to go back to India. They have exacted a promise from me to return,
- G. In case I am arrested, I hope you will have an eye over the affairs here.
- B. I am shortly going to end all this struggle for Self-Government spiritually, provided you agree to come with me to America when all this settled.
- G. I promise to do so if the whole thing gets adjusted as I wish it to be.
- B. Hearing about the talk of a promise, Messrs. Vallabhbhai and others who were standing at a little distance, became at once interested and one of them said " Bapuji, you are giving promises : but have you thought about us ? Are you not going to take our opinion in the matter ? "

G. When this struggle is once settled, what else is left for us to do. Then it would be a question between him (Meher Baba) and me. I have already promised. Yes, only when the struggle ends. Oh, for the sight of that blessed day ! (To Baba) I suppose you will be going to Nasik now.

B. Yes, Nasik.

G. Then I have one request to make. I know you can influence the Depressed Classes as you have been working for their uplift. Dr. Ambedkar personally is very considerate and reasonable, and if a personality like you can persuade him to view the question of Depressed Classes from a broader outlook of national unity and the consequent moral and spiritual strength accruing therefrom, I am sure he would accept the joint electorates, and save seventy millions of our brethren from drifting away from the religious fold for paltry political gain at the cost of national disintegration. I am sure he (Dr. Ambedkar) will listen to you.

B. I will do my best. I do not want this stigma of untouchability to remain attached to Depressed Classes for ever, for the removal of which, I am also working spiritually ; and the result is bound to come in due course.

The meeting ended with a hearty embrace between Gandhiji and Meher Baba.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 235]

For Special Attention

It must be noted that at no stage during Shri Baba's meetings and talks with Gandhiji was there any mention, from either of them, of a " Guru-chela " (Master-Disciple) relationship between them, and all the distorted reports in papers that have already appeared in papers in the West particularly, and referring or pointing to such relationship are either due to grave misunderstanding, gross ignorance or intentional distortion on part of reporters or publishers and necessitate immediate correction.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 241]

YERAVDA MANDIR

15th October 1932

My Dear Rangaswamy,

I hope you got my wire two or three days ago. It was handed in by me on 3rd instant but was delayed by the authorities pending instructions from the Government of India. I enclose copy of my wire to the Zamorin.

You will see therefore that there is not much time to lose if the temple is to be opened in the due time. I hope therefore that you and the friends you mentioned will quickly move in the matter.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

Shri A. Rangaswamy Iyengar,
The "Hindu", Madras.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part 111, p. 243]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
15th October 1932

Dear Friend,

The wire which I handed in on 3rd instant was considered by the authorities and released for despatch only three days ago. I hope you duly received it. I trust that you will please move in the matter and ensure the opening of the temple during the period of suspension.

I do not know the proper style of addressing you. If therefore there is any want of propriety, you will please instruct me, knowing it to be wholly unintended.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

The Zamorin,
Calicut.

P. S.

For the sake of ensuring accuracy I enclose copy of my wire.

(Sd.) M. K. G.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 257]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
6th October 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

I am still anxiously waiting for Government's reply to my letter of the 29th instant addressed to Major Bhandari and forwarded by you, I understand, to the Government. Meanwhile, arising out of Sjt. Kellappan's fast in South India I had to send a long telegram to the Zamorin, Calicut, which was referred to the Government and which so far as I am aware, has not still gone to the Zamorin. Now that matter is one of life and death and though Sjt. Kellappan's fast has been suspended at my instance, he is by no

means yet out of the wood. And now I am necessarily dragged into it because of my successful intervention. The Zamorin of Calicut is the central figure in this controversy. Sjt. Kellappan's fast is suspended only for three months. There is not therefore much time to be wasted. I should therefore like to know when this telegram will be sent to the Zamorin and whether I am free to carry on correspondence in connection with untouchability. Delay is a matter of great danger and vexation.

It is also highly necessary for me to see some co-workers in this connection. I would therefore like you please to secure early decision from Government in this matter.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 265]

(1)

TELEGRAM

NameA. Rangaswami Iyengar.

Address " Hindu ", Madras.

ON STRENGTH MY ADVICE AND ASSURANCE KELLAPPAN HAS BROKEN FAST ONLY TO BE RESUMED IF DURING NEXT THREE MONTHS TEMPLE NOT OPENED EXPECT YOU AND FRIENDS CONCENTRATE ON OPENING TEMPLE.

GANDHI

(2)

TELEGRAM

NameZamorin.

AddressCalicut.

I RECOGNISED THAT KELLAPPAN BEING UNDER DISCIPLINE WAS BOUND RECEIVE MY CONSENT PREVIOUS TO FAST AND WAS BOUND ANY CASE GIVE FAIR NOTICE OF INTENTION FAST THESE DEFECTS BEING POINTED OUT HE HAS BRAVELY RESPONDED AND BROKEN FAST WHICH WILL BE RESUMED IF DURING NEXT THREE MONTHS AFTER SECOND INSTANT TEMPLE NOT OPENED STOP KELLAPPAN'S ACCEPTANCE MY ADVICE THROWS HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY MY SHOULDERS PERHAPS EVEN EXTENT OF SHARING HIS FAST IF TEMPLE NOT OPENED TO AVARNA HINDUS DURING PERIOD OF SUSPENSION MAY I EXPECT YOU CARRY OUT YOUR ASSURANCE AND OVERCOME ALL DIFFICULTIES LEGAL OR OTHERWISE IN WAY OF LONG DEFERRED REFORM.

GANDHI

(3)

TELEGRAM

NameDr. Ansari.

AddressCare Thos. Cook Son, Paris.

ANTICIPATED YOU BY ISSUING APPEAL HINDU-MUSLIM-SIKH UNITY.

GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, pp. 265-266]

(4)

TELEGRAM

NameMoulana Shaukatali.

AddressKhilafat Office, Bombay.

AM DELIGHTED YOU HAVE POSTPONED YOUR AMERICAN VISIT IT WILL BE GLORIOUS DAY WHEN SOLID HINDU-MUSLIM-SIKH UNITY IS ACHIEVED REST WILL FOLLOW AS DAY FOLLOWS NIGHT LOVE IF YOU WILL SEARCH DILIGENTLY YOU WILL STILL FIND ME IN YOUR POCKET.

GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 273]

No. S.D. 5405

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 10th October 1932

From

C. B. B. CLEE, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. S.D. 6386, dated the 8th instant, I am directed to inform you that the telegrams addressed to Mr. A. Rangaswami Iyengar, Madras, and the Zamorin, Calicut, may be allowed to go on, but the one intended for Dr. M. A. Ansari should be withheld. The three telegrams are returned herewith in original.

2. As regards the telegram addressed to Mr. Shaukat Ali, I am to say that a further communication will be made to you in due course regarding its disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, pp. 283-285*]

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

HOME DEPARTMENT

EXPRESS LETTER

From

Home, Simla ;

To

Bombay Special, Poona.

No. D-8145/32-Poll.

Dated the 11th October 1932

Your Express Letter No. 6385, dated 8th October 1932. For reasons given in paragraph 2 of our telegram No. 2260, dated 9th October, the telegram from Mr. Gandhi to Mr. Shaukat Ali should not be passed for transmission.

(Sd.) M. G. HALLETT,

Secretary to the Government of India,

H. D. (Special).

Orders withholding the telegram from Mr. Gandhi to Mr. Shaukat Ali have already been passed and communicated to the Inspector-General of Prisons—please see on, dated 10th October 1932 and Government letter No. S.D. 6406 of the same date fine.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, pp. 285-286]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 9628 of 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prison,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 12th October 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to state that so far while censoring the correspondence of State Prisoner, M. K. Gandhi, I have been withholding letters in which there was any direct or indirect reference to the Civil Disobedience Movement or Politics in general. In view of Government letter No. S.D. 6406, Home Department (Political), dated 10th October 1932, directing me to withhold telegram addressed to Mr. Shaukat Ali by Mr. Gandhi, I would like to have more detailed instructions on this matter. I would like to be told whether letters discussing points about untouchability and Hindu-Muslim differences, should be delivered to Mr. Gandhi and whether similar letters from him should be allowed to go on.

Against as long as greater facilities are given for interviews, the letter can be withheld but the subject-matter of such letters is likely to come to the knowledge of the public. Mrs. Gandhi stays with Mr. Gandhi for a good few hours every day and probably hears and takes part in conversation on these subjects. It is likely that she may repeat this sort of conversation outside inadvertently. Again Mr. Gandhi's son Devdas and for the last 2 days his other son Mr. Manilal have had interview practically every day. It is possible that they may repeat outside to their friends what they have been talking to their father. I do not suggest that Mr. Gandhi is intentionally sending out messages through his relations. I contend that with the present interview facilities it is likely that matters which Government do not want to be discussed by the public will get into newspapers as pointed out above. An example of this kind is the telegram for Mr. Shaukat Ali which has been withheld but which has already been published in newspapers.

Again in my opinion neither it is possible nor I presume it is Government's intention that all the time while Mrs. Gandhi and her sons are in the yard that a Jail Official should be on the watch.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 928 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 12th October 1932

F. W. C. to the Secretary, H. D., for favour of definite orders on the points raised being issued.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Submitted.

2. I think the situation is almost impossible but there it is while the interviews with close relatives are allowed as they are at present matters which would be stopped in correspondence will get through orally. The Superintendent may be told to send any letters, i.e., about which he has any doubt to Government.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
12th October

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 287]

I have received a letter from Mr. Devdas taking on himself the blame for the Shaukatali telegram and apologising, I do not think it will occur again.

2. Letters to Mr. Gandhi touching on the questions of untouchability and Hindu-Muslim differences may be delivered to him—letters *from* him had better be sent up to us for the present. If they are at all objectionable, we will withhold them and warn him that we are so doing.

(Sd.) W. F. HADSON
13th October

Inspector-General of Prison may see under order. He will issue instructions to the Superintendent.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
13th October

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 289]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 930 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 14th October 1932

MEMORANDUM

With reference to his letter No. 9628, dated 12th October 1932. The Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison is informed that letters to Mr. Gandhi touching on the question of untouchability and Hindu-Muslim differences may be delivered to him. Letters *from* him should be sent to Government for orders regarding disposal.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

[True copy]

(Sd.) S. R. CHAUBAL,

Personal Assistant to
the Inspector-General of Prisons.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 291]

CONFIDENTIAL

D. O. No. S. 2782-Poll.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

HOME DEPARTMENT

Simla, the 12th October 1932

My Dear Clee,

In my first letter No. D/8145-Poll, of the 11th instant was stated that, for the reasons given in paragraph 2 of our telegram No. 2260 of the 9th October, the telegram from Mr. Gandhi to Maulana Shaukat Ali should not be passed for transmission. It appears, however, to have leaked out, for an A. P. I. message from Bombay, dated October 10th, which is published in the *Hindustan Times* of the 12th of October and probably in other papers, has reproduced in almost exactly the same words the telegram sent with your letter of the 8th of October. The Government of India would be glad if the Government of Bombay will consider what steps can

be taken to prevent leakages of this kind. Presumably a copy of the telegram was handed to one of Mr. Gandhi's visitors or possibly it was merely communicated verbally. It appears desirable that some measures should be taken forthwith to prevent a similar publication of correspondence which, in the opinion of the Government of India, it is undesirable to issue.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. G. HALIETT

C. B. B. CLEE, Esqr., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department (Political).

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 295]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 6551
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 17th October 1932

Please refer to your demi-official letter No. S. 2782-Poll. of the 12th October regarding the leakage of the contents of the telegram from Mr. Gandhi to Maulana Shaukat Ali.

This Government had already noticed that the telegram appeared almost word for word in the press, but Devidas Gandhi, who has been allowed daily interviews with his father in accordance with the instructions of the Government of India subsequently wrote to the Honourable the Home Member taking on himself the blame for the leakage and apologising. It is thought unlikely that he will again abuse the privilege afforded him, but he has been warned that if such an incident occurs against the family interviews will have to be stopped.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
17th October

The Honourable Mr. M. G. HALLETT, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department (Political).

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 301]

KARIM NAGAR
H. E. H. NIZAM'S DOMINIONS
October 11, 1932

My Dear Bapu,

It was more than good of you to send me two postcards, one just before your fast began and one the very day after interviews were stopped. The

latter helped to make-up a little for the disappointment of not seeing you. The visit to Poona was worth while, though, in that I saw Devdas and Pyarelal was fortunate enough to stay at C. S. S. and make the acquaintance of some of the friends there.

Now I don't want to waste your time by chattering about all sorts of subjects today, but there is one subject which has been worrying the minds of some of my friends here who "three-quarters-believe" in you. That is a sentence in your message to South India—where you say, "I say without the slightest hesitation that God will be installed in the idol of the temples only if they are thrown open unreservedly to the outcasts". I gathered when with you on the Piona that you did not believe in idols for yourself, and so cannot explain this expression myself, and would be grateful if you would do so. One explanation that has occurred to me is that the English "Message" which was in the paper may be a translation of Hindi or some other language and the best word has not been found for the word you used.

I trust you are now quite strong again, and that Devdas also is still improving in health. It gave me quite a shock to see how thin he was.

My love and "Namasthe" to you,
Yours affectionately,
(Sd.) (F.) MARY (Barr.)

P. S.—

The few girls who were left in school during our recent Michaelmas holiday got up a little drama during my absence and asked to give it on Friday night. They finished it about 7.35 and remembered, quite on their own, to sing "Lead Kindly Light" and had prayer before the audience dispersed.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 307]

THE VICTORIA CHEMICAL & MANUFACTURING WORKS

Karachi, 15th October 1932

Mahatma Gandhiji, C/o Superintendent,
Yeravda Jail, Yeravda, Poona

Dear Mahatmaji,

I respectfully beg to bring to your kind information a resolution passed by the Karachi Municipality under the Presidentship and guidance of Mr. Jamshed N. R. Mehta that the future candidates for election as members to the Municipality should deposit a sum of Rs. 250 before their being nominated. This resolution is no doubt brought to bar the members of the depressed classes who are proverbially poor and cannot boast of even in possession of a few coins leave alone the sum of Rs. 250 from entering the

Municipality as councillors. This resolution has been brought at a time when the welfare of the depressed classes should be in the forefront with all the lovers of our motherland as it has been with you for many years now. If this resolution is not rescinded the entry of the depressed classes as councillors which most of us have at heart will end in nothing but a mere farce. Some gentlemen here like Sjt. Manilal Vyas are doing their best to have this resolution rescinded but as it is very doubtful whether their attempt will bear fruit, I appeal to you to use your benign influence in advising in the matter Mr. Jamshed who had always been your faithful chela. I am quite sure that a word from you will weigh greatly with the city fathers here leading to the cancellation of the resolution and thus permitting members of the depressed classes who are many of them not wanting an intelligent to stand for nomination.

Hoping you will pardon me for intruding upon your precious time, I remain.

Most humbly yours in the service of motherland,
(Sd.) RAMCHAND S. BALRY,
C./o The Victoria Chemical & Manufacturing Works,
Karachi.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 309]

Brother Jamshed,

What does this letter mean ? I have not replied to the writer. May I ask you about it ? If you will write to me, I will send a reply to the writer.

Hope Kikiben is getting well.

Yours sincerely,
BAPU

21st October 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part 111, p. 331]

28th October 1932

TELEGRAM

To

Ghanshyamdas Birla,
Birla Mills, Delhi.

Letters and your wire received. Government imposed on correspondence conditions which defeat object and are practically impossible carry out. Am carrying on correspondence with them about same.

(Sd.) GANDHI

The above telegram was withheld under the orders of Court in H. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 343]

31st October 1932

TELEGRAM

ALLAHABAD

MAHATMA GANDHI PRISONER, POONA, IN YOUR LAMENTABLE ABSENCE. WE DOING BEST TO ACHIEVE PAPER IF NOT HEART UNITY STOP SITUATION RIPE YOUR PRESENCE WOULD HAVE SOLVED DIFFICULTIES SEND YOUR BLESSINGS AND GOOD WISHES.

SYED MAHMUD

The above telegram was withheld under the orders of Court in H. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 353]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
8th November 1932

Dear Major Bhandari,

During the Fast Week there were two telegrams received from Egypt, one from Madam Zaghloul and the other from Nahas Pasha. I cabled suitable replies to both. During that week all the important telegrams and my replies to them were handed to the press. But just at present I observe that garbled versions of the telegrams mentioned above in a somewhat ludicrous form are going the round of the press as if they were the true versions. They appear to be translations from Egyptian Vernacular newspapers. I should like to supply the press with true copies. Will you please ascertain from the Government whether these copies may be supplied by me to the press ? Of course they have reference to untouchability. I enclose herewith the text, barring Nahas Pasha's wire which for the moment I cannot trace among my papers. The cutting herewith from the Indian Social Reforms containing the garbled version will give some idea of the original.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 355]

Here is a correct copy of Madame Zaghloul's cable to Gandhiji: Cairo, 23rd September 1932.

Egyptian people men and women who have been following with brotherly sympathy heroic struggle India and her great chief Mahatma Gandhi for liberty are now watching with beating hearts Mahatma's sublime act of self-sacrifice for sake of India's unity and freedom. As one who had shared with my late husband, joy of working for and obtaining sacred unity of Egypt

Christians Mahomedans Copts and also other communities of whatever religion or denomination, may I express my sincere hope that India's people inspired by Gandhi's sublime act of self-abrogation would unite in one great mass of brothers and patriots to save India's liberties and save life of her great son whose life and work are patrimony of East and humanity at large—Safieh Zaghloul.

Gandhiji's reply 24th September 1932.

Thank you for loving inspiring message God's will be done.

(Sd.) GANDHI

Gandhi's reply to Mustafa Nahas Pasha, dated 25th September 1932.

Deeply touched by your message, May this purificatory fast touch all faiths, bring them and us together in a living bond. Egyptian blanket presented to me during last voyage covers me during this struggle with Allah who is great and merciful.

(Sd.) GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, pp. 357-358]

Extract from the Indian Social Reformer, dated 5th November 1932.

Egypt's Tributes to Mahatma Gandhi

Gandhiji was the recipient of two messages from Egypt during his fast. These and his replies are reproduced below from the *Free Press Journal*:

Begum Zaghloul's Telegram

To

Mahatma Gandhi,
Yeravda Prison, Poona.

Mahatmaji,

The Egyptian nation which was watching with keen interest and with deep attachment of love and brotherhood the progress of that movement undertaken by you, the idol of the whole of the East, for the liberation of the country, is today watching with perplexed heart and faded face your awful and fierce determination to sacrifice your precious life for the sake of the unity of India.

To the delight of my late lamented husband I participated in his successful attempt to settle once for all the communal differences between the Muslims and the Coptics which stood in the way for the liberation of Egypt and which finally resulted in achieving lasting unity and brotherhood among the two warring sections of the people. With sincerity of heart I earnestly pray that all the different communities of India should immediately unite together so that India may attain salvation and the life of the greatest and noblest

Indian may thus be saved. As your precious life has now become international property not of the East but of the whole world so that noble life must be saved at any cost.

Yours truly,
(Sd.) SAFIA ZAGHLOUL

Mahatma's Reply

Mahatma Gandhi sent the following reply to Begum Zaghloul :

" I am extremely thankful to you for your soul encouraging and charming telegram. The Will of God be done."

Nahas Pasha's Telegram

Below we produce the full telegram of Nahas Pasha, ex-Premier of Egypt to Mahatmaji, which was published in mutilated form in the Indian Press :

Dear Mahatmaji,

Your sincere and heart-enabling determination to 'the effect that for maintaining the Indian solidarity in fact you should sacrifice your valuable life has captivated the hearts of the Egyptian people. The Egyptian nation before its present national awakening passed through the same amount of difficulties and sacrifices through which India is now passing and which has linked the destiny of Egypt with the destiny of India equally.

The Egyptian nation, whose ardent love of the country has united them in settling the communal differences and closing up their ranks, sincerely hopes that to save the priceless life of Mahatmaji the various Indian communities should instantly unite and adjust the communal quarrels. All the Eastern nations which are still fighting for the liberty of their countries fondly hope to see the consummation of that ideal for which Mahatmaji is ready to lay down his life.

O' Mahatmaji ! On behalf of Egypt and on behalf of the Egyptian nation, I sincerely offer our greetings of love and brotherhood to you in your hour of penance with the hope that your struggle for truth, independence and equality may be crowned with abiding success for which we live and we shall die in the end.

Mahatma's Reply

Mahatma Gandhi sent the following reply to Nahas Pasha :

" Your telegram has produced much influence upon my heart. I pray to God that my present fast may touch the hearts of all and may bless us all, with the wealth of lasting communal unity and peace which I cherish so dearly in my heart. During these days of fast I am using that Egyptian shawl which was so graciously presented to me as a token of love and affection of the occasion of my last travel on the shores of Egypt. I completely rely and depend upon God the Most Merciful."

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, pp. 361-362]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C. 11/10517 of 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE ,
Dated 10th November 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter from State Prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

So far he has been allowed periodicals and newspapers mentioned in the Government letter No. S.D. 310, Home Department (Political), dated 16th January 1932. A number of other periodicals and papers were received but were not delivered to him. There are some periodicals which only deal with religious matters and sometimes when I had time to scrutinize them, I gave a few to him. But some of the periodicals that he now mentions in his letter do not deal with religious matters only, for example the Indian Review.

In case his request is to be granted, it would entail more work for me and my staff if such papers have to be censored in this office. If he is to be allowed greater facilities in this respect in that case I suggest that they may be restricted to " cuttings " from such papers and periodicals dealing with un-touchability only, i.e., if the cuttings are received as such, and not the whole newspapers or periodicals.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 1025 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 10th November 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of orders.

(Sd.) S. R. CHAUBAL,
Personal Assistant,
Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,
for Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

I think Mr. Gandhi's request can be granted. Major Bhandari can see the periodicals and occasionally if he considers any of them objectionable refer them for orders. I do not mean that he should try to censor the papers but maintain a general watch.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
11th November 1932

H. E. (P. S. G.)

(Sd.) F. H. SYKES
11th November 1932

To be submitted to H. M. after orders have issued.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
11th November 1932

(Originals sent to I. G. of Prisons under u. o. r. No. S.D. 7028, dated 12th November 1932).

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES
15th November

For information.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
15th November

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 363]

Dear Major Bhandari,

You have been receiving on my behalf the Vedic Magazine, a Hindi Monthly, Purushartha—a Marathi Monthly, both religious publications, Indian Review of Madras—Hon'ble Mr. Natesan's Monthly and possibly other magazines.

Now that I am permitted to do propaganda work regarding untouchability, I shall want these and other publications in order to enable me to keep myself in touch with public opinion as expressed in the Press and to combat, where necessary, criticism that may appear therein.

You seem to doubt whether these papers and magazines that are already coming and which may come in answer to my appeal may under the recent decision of the Government of India, be given to me. Will you please obtain the Government interpretation in the matter as early as possible ?

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

8th November 1932
Yeravda Central Prison.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 367]

15th November 1932

TELEGRAM

NameFerozechand.

Address " Bandemataram ", Lahore.

Hope everyone honouring Lalaji's memory will do something remove untouchability.

GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 373]

15th November 1932

TELEGRAM

NameGovind Malaviya.

AddressAllahabad.

THANK GOD HOPE FATHER NONE THE WORSE FOR STRAIN

BAPU

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 399]

C/o. Miss Peterson
Porto Novo
S. I. R.
November 21, 1932

My Dear Bapuji,

It was good of you to send such a long explanation about the idol-worship question. I think we had all understood and agreed with your point that

God could not be considered to inhabit any holy place which was closed to a section of the community, whether a " white people's church " or a Hindu Temple. What we did not understand was how you could tacitly admit that God is more specially in an idol than in another piece of stone, when you do not find idols helpful yourself. It is one thing to allow other people to worship as they wish and another to give the impression that you subscribe to that method of worship yourself. It was probably entirely our fault that we took your " message to South India " to mean the latter. The friend on whose behalf I wrote has a very real affection for you, though he has never seen you.

What do you think of the above address ? I am much enjoying my stay with Miss Peterson. Perhaps I ought to explain about my staying here and probable future movements. I think I told you on the boat that I was feeling after some simpler form of living than was possible in the place where I have been working until now and also wanting to go to Sabarmati to learn Hindi and spinning. My mission was not able to get anybody to take my place until just recently, but now I have leave for 14 months to see if God will show me a different way of serving India or, rather, I have resigned, but with an invitation to return to my old work at the earliest possible moment and not later than 1933 X'mas. I am probably going to the Christukula Ashram (Tirupattur) at the end of this month—or possibly Karanja. Early in the new Year I would like to go for some time to Sabarmati, not as a guest but as a regular student. After that I am not sure what I shall do, but the reading of your recent statements in the Press about anti-untouchability campaign has made me feel that perhaps you could put me in touch with someone with whom I can work for a while. I don't think I am good at managing other people or organising, but I could help in actually *doing* sweeper work, say, where perhaps that would be of as much help as the talking about it. I have helped the girls in my own school a few times when our rather irregular, paid sweeper failed to turn up for a few days and have done my own sweeping all this year though living in a bungalow with other Englishwomen. Perhaps it would be possible to find out at Sabarmati what I could do in this way or other ways, but if not, I do not know to whom to apply. I suggest this because a few people actually taking part in the disadvantages of Harijans— or *even* some of the disadvantages ; we could never experience them all— may help reform more than many mass meetings.

If you feel that the ordinary missionary channels are my best of way of serving India I shall be interested to hear so ; if not and you could put me in touch with someone else I should be grateful. If you think it best for me to wait until I have passed some testing time at Sabarmati I shall be satisfied. You said in your first letter that I might go there anytime, so I hope there will be no obstacle to my going there, though I realise of course that it cannot be fully organised at present.

I am fond of walking and prefer village life to town life, which points may give a clue as to how best I may be useful.

You would enjoy seeing Miss Peterson in her home here—she gives herself so whole heartedly to the whole family, even the cats and dogs, that everybody is very happy. It is a privelege to stay here.

My namasthes to M. D. and yourself.

Ever your affectionately,
(Sd.) MARY BARR

P.S.—

I am much appreciating meeting some of Miss Peterson's Hindu Friends. Having always been in a Christian institution in a Christian compound I have had practically no contact with Hindus. Miss P. intended to put a letter in with this, but she has been busy and post time has come, so she sends her love and says she will write later. I know you are having a great deal of correspondence just now, so think a p. c. will be adequate for a reply to this.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 417]

INDIAN STUDENTS UNION
112, Gower Street, London, W.C.1
November 12

My Dearest Mohan,

I forgot to mention an important matter which may prove of service somewhere. I went to the India Office to find out whether any community (such as the Indian Christians) could contract out of the Prime Minister's award in a separate province. The answer was unofficially given to me ' Yes' and I am taking it up at once with S. K. Datta and Father Winslow and others. It has also appeared possible to me that it might affect other communal awards and I thought I ought to let you know at once.

When I asked whether individuals, *qua* individuals, might contract out the answer was very much more doubtful, indeed it was said that probably this could *not* happen, but I feel that the point needs to be thrashed out. If the communal poison is to be eliminated we must not fail to avail ourselves of any purging process.

I could not understand from what the " Times " reported yesterday if you actually replied to the question asked you ' whether you could be able to deal with the removal of untouchability more effectively if you were released from prison ? ' The *Times* seemed to give your answer in this way that the ' removal of untouchability ' and ' civil disobedience ' appeared to you to be equally important. But the further issue " whether you yourself felt hindered from within the prison walls in carrying on your anti-untouchability campaign" did *not* seem to be answered and therefore it left me in doubt what to do. It is just possible I may cable to you about

this, but in any case I feel it best to send it by air mail. You will easily realise how it affects the work here which I myself wish to accomplish.

Will you give my very dear love to Vallabhbhai and Mahadev. I have been having an almost overwhelming programme to fulfil. One of my sisters has been ill. I am sorry to say. They sent their love to you. Dr. Ansari has been very ill but is now better. I think his coming for special 'bath' treatment to Europe has saved his life.

With dearest love,
(Sd.) CHARLIE

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 423]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
9th December. 1932

My Dear Charlie,

I have your letter of 12th November only today. If it was an airmail letter it should have been received about the 22nd of November. Your letter therefore seems to have gone through the whole circuit of examination before being delivered to me. I shall inquire. I am surprised that there should be any question arising as to whether I could do untouchability work more effectively as a freeman than as a prisoner. I should think that it is a self-evident proposition that I could do more effective work as a free man. At the same time I can fully appreciate the Government standpoint. So long as they feel that civil disobedience must be put down at any cost and that their plan might be frustrated or checked if I was left free to carry on Civil Disobedience propaganda, they are bound to keep me under detention unless I would give them an assurance, be it even verbal, that I would not carry on Civil Disobedience propaganda. For my part, however much I may wish to confine myself wholly to untouchability work, I cannot without a full knowledge of the circumstances outside give any undertaking as to my future action. After all Civil Disobedience under given circumstances is as much an article of faith with me as removal of untouchability. I can therefore never say beforehand what will occupy my attention exclusively or for the most part at a given moment and since a civil resister bargains for the punishment he receives for his resistance, he must not fret over it. Therefore and to that extent I am content with my lot. I hope this tells you clearly how I stand.

I hope you got there no alarming report about my little fast over Appasaheb Patwardhan. I need not give you the details about the event for you must have seen them in the papers. All I need say is that except for a little weakness there is no ill effect left of the fast. I hope too that you are finding no difficulty in understanding and appreciating the temple-entry question and the contemplated fast.

I hope that you are keeping your health inspite of the stress.

Dr. Ansari is wonderful. If he is there give him our love and tell him that our prayers always ascend to heaven for his complete recovery.

If what you say about the communal decision turns out to be true it is a silver lining to the dark cloud.

Love from us all,
(Sd.) MOHAN

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 431]

Copy of a telegram from Charlie (Andrews), Birmingham, to Mahatma Gandhi, Yeravda Prison, Poona, dated the 8th December 1932.

Discount over anxiety my letters everything clear now. If my help needed India cable otherwise remaining London.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 433]

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

With reference to Secretary's query, the only letter for the last month from C. F. Andrews to Gandhi which has been referred to Government for orders which was allowed to go on as also Mr. Gandhi's reply.

Possibly there are some other letters from Andrews in course of transmission by post or which were delivered to Mr. Gandhi without previous reference to Government. In any case, there seems no particular harm in letting Mr. Gandhi have this telegram. He needs all the soothing possible !

Draft letter, with f. c, put up.

Probably the reference in the telegram is to the last paragraph of his letter of November 12th in which he referred to the illness of his sister and Dr. Ansari and to his being an almost overwhelming programme to fulfil.

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES
13th December

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part 1, p. 65]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
11th March 1932

Dear Sir Samuel,

You will perhaps recollect that at the end of my speech at the Round Table Conference when the Minorities' claim was presented, I had said that I should resist with my life the grant of separate electorate to the depressed classes. This was not said in the heat of the moment nor by way of rhetoric, it was meant to be a serious statement.

In pursuance of that statement, I had hoped on my return to India to mobilize the public opinion against separate electorate, at any rate for the depressed classes. But it was not to be—

From the newspapers which I am permitted to read, I observe that any moment H. M.'s Government may declare their decision. At first I had thought that if the decision was found to create separate electorates for the depressed classes I should take such. . . .

I need hardly reiterate all the objections I have to the erection of separate electorates for the depressed classes. I feel as if I was one of them. Their case stands on a wholly different footing from that of the others. I am not against their representation in the legislatures. I should favour every one of their adults, male or female, being registered as voters, irrespective of education or property qualifications, and that even though the franchise test may be stricter for the others. But I hold that separate electorate is harmful for them and for Hinduism, whatever it may be from a purely political standpoint. To appreciate the harm that separate electorate would do to them, one has to know how they are distributed amongst the so-called caste Hindus, and how dependent they are on the latter. So far as Hinduism is concerned separate electorate would simply vivisect and disrupt it. For me the question of these classes is predominantly moral and religious. The political aspect, important though it is, dwindles into insignificance compared to the moral and religious issue. You will have to appreciate my feelings in this matter by remembering that I have been interested in the condition of these classes from my boyhood and have more than once staked my all for their sake. I say this not to pride myself in any way. For I feel that no penance that caste Hindus may do can, in any way, compensate for the calculated degradation to which they have consigned the depressed classes for centuries. But I know that separate electorate is neither penance nor any remedy for the crushing degradation they have groaned under.

I therefore respectfully inform H. M.'s Government that in the event of their decision creating separate electorate for the depressed classes I must fast unto death.

I am painfully conscious of the fact that such a step whilst I am a prisoner must cause grave embarrassment to H. M.'s Government and that it will be regarded by many as highly improper on the part of one holding my position to introduce into the political field methods which they would describe as hysterical, if not much worse. All I can urge in defence is that for me the contemplated step is not a method, it is part of my being. It is a call of conscience which I dare not disobey, even though it may cost whatever reputation for sanity I may possess.

So far as I can see now, my discharge from imprisonment would not make the duty of fasting any the less imperative.

I am hoping, however, that all my fears are wholly unjustified and that the British Government have no intention whatever of creating separate electorate for the depressed classes.

It is perhaps as well for me to refer to another matter that is agitating me and may also enforce a similar fast. It is the way repression is doing. I have no notion when I may receive a shock that would compel the sacrifice.

Repression appears to me to be crossing what might be called the legitimate limit. A Governmental terrorism is spreading through the land. Both English and Indian officials are being brutalised. The latter, high and low, are becoming demoralised by reason of the Government rewarding as meritorious, disloyalty to the people and inhuman conduct towards their own kith and kin. The latter are being cowed down. Free speech has been stifled. Goondaism is being practised in the name of law and order. Women who have come out for public service stand in fear of their honour being insulted.

And all this, as it seems to me, is being done in order to crush the spirit of freedom which the Congress represents. Repression is not confined to punishing civil breaches of the common law. It goads people to break newly made orders of autocracy designed for the most part to humiliate them.

In all these doings as I read them I see no spirit of democracy. Indeed, my recent visit to England has confirmed my opinion that your democracy is a superficial circumscribed thing. In the weightiest matters decisions are taken by individuals or groups, without any reference to the Parliament, and these have been ratified by the Members having but a vague notion of what they were doing. Such was the case with Egypt, the war of 1914, and such is the case with India. My whole being rebels against the idea that in a system called democratic one man should have the unfettered power of affecting the destiny of the ancient people numbering over three hundred millions, and that his decisions can be enforced by mobilising the most terrible forces of destruction. To me this is a negation of democracy.

And this repression cannot be prolonged without further embittering the already bitter relations between the two peoples. In so far as I am responsible and can help it, how am I to arrest the process ? Not by stopping civil disobedience. For me it is an article of faith. I regard myself by nature a democrat. Democracy of my conception is wholly inconsistent with the use of physical force for enforcing its will. Civil resistance therefore has been conceived to be a proper substitute for physical force to be used wherever generally the latter is held necessary or justifiable. It is a process of self-suffering and a part of the plan is that in given circumstances a civil resister must sacrifice himself even by fasting to a finish. That moment has not yet arrived for me. I have no undeniable call from within

for such a step. But the events happening outside are alarming enough to agitate my fundamental being. Therefore, in writing to you about the possibility of a fast regarding depressed classes, I felt that I would be untrue to you if I did not tell you also that there was another possibility, not remote, of such a fast.

Needless to say that from my side absolute secrecy has been maintained about all the correspondence I have carried on with you. Of course Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Mahadev Desai, who has just been sent to join us, know all about it. But you will no doubt make whatever use you wish of this letter.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI
Yeravda Central Prison
11th March 1932

Sir Samuel Hoare, White-hall, London.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 65]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
18th August 1932

Dear Friend,

There can be no doubt that Sir Samuel Hoare has showed you and the Cabinet my letter to him of the 11th March on the question of the representation of the "Depressed" Classes. That letter should be treated as part of this letter and be read together with this.

I have read the British Government's decision on the representation of the Minorities and have slept over it. In pursuance of my letter to Sir Samuel Hoare and my declaration at the meeting of the Minorities Committee of the Round Table Conference on 13th November 1931, at St. James' Palace, I have to resist your decision with my life. The only way I can do so is by declaring a perpetual fast unto death from food of any kind, save water, with or without salt and soda. This fast will cease if, during its progress, the British Government, of its own motion or under pressure of public opinion, revise their decision and withdraw their scheme of communal electorates for the depressed classes whose representatives should be elected by the General electorate under a common franchise, no matter how wide it is.

The proposed fast will come into operation in the ordinary course from the noon of 20th September next, unless the said decision is meanwhile revised in the manner suggested above.

I am asking the authorities here to cable the text of this letter to you, so as to give you ample notice. But in any case I am leaving sufficient time for this letter to reach you in time by the slowest route.

I also ask that this letter, and my letter to Sir Samuel Hoare already referred to, be published at the earliest possible moment. On my part I have scrupulously observed the rule of the jail and have communicated my desire or the contents of the two letters to no one save the two companions Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Sjt. Mahadev Desai. But I want, if you make it possible, public opinion to be affected by my letters. Hence my request for their early publication.

I regret the decision I have taken. But as a man of religion that I hold myself to be, I have no other course left open to me. As I have said in my letter to Sir Samuel Hoare, even if His Majesty's Government decided to release me, in order to save themselves the embarrassment, my fast will have to continue. For I cannot now hope to resist the decision by any other means. And I have no desire whatsoever to compass my release by any means other than honourable.

It may be that my judgment is warped, and that I am wholly in error in regarding separate electorates for the " Depressed" Classes as harmful to them or Hinduism. If so, I am not likely to be in the right with reference to the other parts of my philosophy of life. In that case my death by fasting will be at once a penance for my error and a lifting of a weight from off those numberless men and women who have a child-like faith in my wisdom. Whereas if my judgment is right, as I have little doubt that it is, the contemplated step is but the due fulfilment of the scheme of life which I have tried ; for more than a quarter of a century, apparently not without considerable success.

I remain,
Your faithful friend,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

To

The Rt. Hon.
J. Ramsay MacDonald,
Prime Minister, London.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 65]

XX—TELEGRAM

From

Governor of Bombay, Ganeshkhind ;

To

(1) Secretary of State, London.

(2) Viceroy, Viceroy's Camp.

Despatched 19th August 1932 at 15-30

Gandhi has written letter dated 18th August addressed to Prime Minister in continuation of letter dated 11th March to Secretary of State regarding

representation of depressed classes. Letter declares his intention to starve himself to death unless British Government withdraw their scheme of communal electorates for depressed classes, whose representatives he states should be elected by general electorate under a common franchise. In order to give time for consideration Gandhi has fixed 20th September as the date he will commence fasting. He asks that his letters may be published. Copy of letter being despatched by Air Mail on 20th.

Addressed to the Secretary of State for India, repeated to H. E. the Viceroy.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 65]

Secretary's Note—

Mr. Gandhi's letter has been sent on by H. E. to the Prime Minister. A copy is placed below for being brought on to the file.

H. E. has also sent copies to the Viceroy by post and to S. of S. by Air Mail.

A telegram has also been sent to the Viceroy and S. of S. A copy is placed below for the file.

(Sd.) GOULD
21st August

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part 1, p. 65]

SECRET

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Simla, 27th August 1932

D. O. No. S. 2410/Poll.

My Dear Clee,

His Excellency the Viceroy has already informed His Excellency the Governor, of the letters which Mr. Gandhi has addressed to the Secretary of State and the Prime Minister in which he announces his intention of starving himself to death unless His Majesty's Government withdraw their scheme of separate electorates for the depressed classes. His Excellency the Governor has also received a copy of the telegram of the Secretary of State indicating the policy which the Government of India propose to follow. They anticipate that as soon as the correspondence with the Prime Minister is published, there will be very intensive propaganda which will take the form, not only of an appeal to the depressed classes and an attempt to show that they support Gandhi, but even more of a general attack on the award and assertions that His Majesty's Government are by their proposals vivisectioning and disrupting Hinduism. The agitation will be increased, when

Gandhi actually starts to fast and is released from jail. The Government of India therefore attach the greatest importance to prompt and vigorous counter propaganda particularly in the districts, emphasising especially the point that it is a question not between Gandhi and His Majesty's Government, but between Gandhi and the depressed classes.

2. To assist Local Government in organizing the counter propaganda we have had note prepared showing the points which it is suggested, should be emphasised. The note is to be used solely for purposes of indirect publicity in the manner indicated in my letter No. S. 2260/32-Poll, dated the 11th August 1932, regarding the use to be made of the explanatory note on the communal award itself, and under no circumstances must the note or any portion of it be published in any newspaper. It is suggested that copies should be sent to all district officers to be used for the purpose of indirect publicity.

3. It is very important that Gandhi's threat should be kept absolutely secret for the present, and the note which is being sent to you in print should not be distributed to district officers until you receive a telegram from me authorising you to do so.

4. There is a certain risk that over-zealous officers may go too far in their propaganda work. It must be clearly understood that propaganda by official agencies should not take the form of an attempt to dissuade the depressed classes from giving up, by agreement with the caste dissuade the scheme, proposed in the Government award. To do so would lay Government and Government officers open to the charge of driving Gandhi to his death. It should be confined to the main lines indicated in the note.

5. I am sending in a separate registered parcel 100 copies of the note. I have a few more in reserve, but the total number is not very large, and I trust that those which are now being sent will suffice.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. G. HALLET

C. B. B. CLEE, Esqr., I.C.R.,

Home Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

The note mentioned in the last para, of G. of I., Home Department (Political), Letter No. S. 2410/Poll, dated 27th August 1932.

SECRET

1. It is probable that Mr. Gandhi will shortly start "hunger-striking" as a protest against the provisions contained in His Majesty's Government's Communal Award regarding the representation of the depressed classes.

2. Should he do so, it is of the utmost importance that the nature and intention of His Majesty's Government's decision in this matter should be exhaustively explained, and misrepresentations regarding it promptly

countered. For there can be little doubt that if Mr. Gandhi adopts this course of action, his admirers will make it the occasion for widespread and intensive propaganda on his behalf.

3. The arrangements with regard to the representation of the depressed classes are defined in paragraph 9 of the text of the Communal Award, of which you already have a copy. Briefly summarised, they are as follows. All members of the depressed classes so entitled under the ordinary electoral qualifications will vote in a general constituency. In addition, since it is improbable that members of the depressed classes would under present conditions secure adequate representation in the Legislatures by this means alone, it is provided that some special seats shall also be assigned to them. These seats will be filled by election from special constituencies in which only members of the depressed classes will be entitled to vote. Members of the depressed classes residing in these areas will thus be allowed two votes, one in a general and one in a special constituency—while members residing outside them will vote in a general constituency only. The special Depressed Class constituency however, are temporary device designed to safeguard the community until its present social and educational disabilities have been to some extent made good ; and His Majesty's Government intend that the new constitution shall provide for their compulsory abolition after 20 years if this has not previously been effected with the agreement of the parties concerned by the means afforded in the text of the Award itself.

4. For many years Mr. Gandhi has interested himself in the circumstances of the depressed classes, and has professed an earnest desire that, despite the ill-treatment they have for generations suffered at the hands of the caste Hindus (which he freely admits), they should not, in a self-governing India, be detached from the main body of the Hindu community. It appears that his present decision is based on the idea that this is what will occur as a result of the arrangements devised by His Majesty's Government.

5. From what has been said in paragraph 3 above it will be obvious that this interpretation of His Majesty's Government's intentions is entirely misleading. For not only will members of the depressed classes, under the new constitution, vote in the same general constituencies as caste Hindus, but the right to record an extra vote in a special constituency, which they are also granted, will be automatically withdrawn 20 years hence, by which time it is estimated that the disabilities under which they now labour will in some measure have been overcome. No responsible person—and certainly not Mr. Gandhi—would attempt to deny the existence of these disabilities, which in Southern India particularly are severe. Indeed, the assumption that the special hardships from which the Depressed Classes have suffered for countless generations will be removed in 20 years, has, by many who have knowledge of Indian conditions, been adjudged to be unduly sanguine, and may in itself be considered a sufficient proof that the intentions of His

Majesty's Government in this matter are the reverse of what Mr. Gandhi appears to believe. In any case, it was solely in order to safeguard the position of the Depressed Classes during the transitional phase, and to ensure that genuine representatives of their interests are returned to the new Legislatures, that the right to record an extra vote in separate electorates. For it would seem obvious that if the Depressed Classes were only given reserved seats in general electorates in which caste Hindus predominate, there would be little likelihood, under existing circumstances, that the majority of the Depressed Class candidates elected would be other than mere nominees of the caste Hindus. It is surely a matter for astonishment that a man like Mr. Gandhi, who unquestionably has the welfare of the down-trodden and oppressed much at heart, should make the introduction of measures designed for their protection the occasion for so drastic and extraordinary a protest.

6. The above summarises the main lines of argument which may be used to discount the fallacious assumptions on which Mr. Gandhi's attitude in this matter seems likely to be based. There is, however, another aspect of the problem which it will be even more necessary to explain clearly and without possibility of misunderstanding ; namely that should Mr. Gandhi expose himself to the risk of death owing to his belief that the depressed classes ought not to have special constituencies allotted to them, this will be the concern of himself and his followers on the one side, and of the representatives of the depressed classes on the other, and will in no way be a matter in which His Majesty's Government would feel justified in interfering. As has been described in detail in confidential notes and memoranda previously supplied to you, it was only with the greatest reluctance, and in response to a direct appeal to them by Indians, that His Majesty's Government agreed to settle the communal problem at all. They would never have undertaken so distasteful and invidious a responsibility had they not felt convinced that without a settlement of at least some aspects of the problem, the introduction of a new constitution conferring responsible Government in India, which is the basis of their policy, must inevitably be postponed; and it should be remembered that during the discussions which took place during the Round Table Conference in London, in several of which Mr. Gandhi participated, the question of determining the representation of the depressed classes proved one of the most difficult and intractable of all. Having, however, in these circumstances and for these reasons decided to compose to disputes between the various Indian communities, His Majesty's Government made it abundantly clear, at the time when their Award was announced, that they believed it to be the most equitable and impartial that could in the circumstances be devised, and that they could not therefore under any conditions consider representations aimed at securing a modification of it which are not supported by all parties concerned. In the absence, therefore, of a spontaneous agreement among Indians regarding

their own domestic differences, the settlement declared by His Majesty's Government cannot be revised or altered, and no course of action adopted by Mr. Gandhi on his own account with this object in view can achieve any result. On the other hand, His Majesty's Government have been equally emphatic in explaining that they would consider a settlement of the problem amongst the parties concerned as greatly preferable to any Award imposed from outside ; and so anxious are they that a solution on these lines should even now be secured, that they have provided, in a paragraph 4 of the Award that any practicable alternative scheme which may be agreed Government will bear no share whatever of the responsibility for the problem upon by Indians before the new Government of India Act is passed shall be recommended to Parliament in substitution for their own. If therefore Mr. Gandhi really decides to make the provisions of the Award regarding the Depressed Classes the occasion for a " hunger-strike", His Majesty's Government will bear no share whatever of the responsibility for the probable outcome of this course of action. The solution of the matter will lie in Indian hands only. Supposing the depressed classes, out of sympathy for Mr. Gandhi, or for some other reason, were to decide in agreement with the caste Hindus to forego the system of special constituencies in certain areas which His Majesty's Government are prepared to grant them, the latter would be quite willing to recommend to Parliament the abolition of this particular feature of the Award, provided this did not prejudice the position of other communities under the new constitution. If, however, the depressed classes should decide that the disabilities to which they have been subjected in the past necessitate their being afforded temporary protection, under a democratic constitution, by the means afforded by His Majesty's Government, and if Mr. Gandhi should persist in starving himself as a protest against this, the responsibility for the consequences will be his alone.

7. There is one remaining point which requires to be brought out. It is common knowledge that a considerable body of the Depressed Classes have hitherto been in complete disagreement with Mr. Gandhi's views regarding the likelihood of their receiving fair treatment from the caste Hindus under a democratic or of Government, and would rather have been cut off politically from the Hindu community altogether by means of separate electorates than have remained linked with them in the manner proposed by His Majesty's Government. Another section of the community would prefer to dispense with special constituencies for the Depressed Classes, provided a fixed and substantial number of seats were reserved for them in the Legislatures. A third appears to favour the compromise arrangement proposed by His Majesty's Government. Now it is generally accepted in civilised society that the most equitable and wisest method of settling disputes and differences of opinion when they arise is by discussion and argument and an appeal to reason. In this particular instance, however, Mr. Gandhi proposes to convert those who disagree with him to his own way of thinking

by the exercise of force. That it will be moral rather than physical force does not render the distinction any the less valid ; and the fact cannot be overlooked that Mr. Gandhi is not himself one of the Depressed Classes but a caste Hindu, and that depressed classes alone who are best entitled to determine 'their own interests in this matter lie. The essence of Mr. Gandhi's plan clearly is, by a sedulous fostering of popular compassion for him in his suffering, to overwhelm a group of people who have not been able to accept his views regarding a matter which primarily affects them.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 63]

Urgent Please.

Dear Major Bhandari,

The enclosed is a message which I should like very much *now* to go if it at all possible, and there might be no difficulty or delay seeing that it is addressed to the Government of India.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

16th September 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 65]

P. S. V.,

SIMLA

Have just read with considerable pain announcement Government decision remove me on commencement contemplated fast to unknown private residence under certain restrictions Stop To avoid unnecessary public expense also unnecessary worry to myself I would ask Government not to disturb me for I will be unable to conform to any conditions as to movement from place to place or otherwise that may be attached to foreshadowed release.

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

Y. C. P.,
16th September 1932

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 77]

D. O. No. S. 2565-Poll.

HOME DEPARTMENT

Simla, 14th September 1932

My Dear Clee,

I am desired to forward to you, and enclose herewith, a complete approved account of the proceedings during the discussion of the adjournment motion in the Legislative Assembly on Tuesday last regarding Mr. Gandhi's proposed

fast. The debate, as you will have seen from the newspapers, went very satisfactorily and we consider that it might serve a useful purpose if you could arrange at the earliest possible moment to have the account of the proceedings delivered to Mr. Gandhi in Yeravda Jail for his perusal, if His Excellency in Council sees no objection.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) H. G. HALLETT

C. B. B. CLEE, Esqr., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department (Special), Poona.

May be sent to Mr. Gandhi.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
18th September

H. M.,

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON

H. E. (P. S. G.),

(Sd.) F. O. SYKES
19th September 1932

Send to Superintendent, Yeravda Jail for delivery to Mr. Gandhi.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
19th September

Handed over to Col. Doyle by Secretary personally on 19th September 1932.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 79]

SECRET

TELEGRAM

No. 2055, dated the 18th September 1932

From

Home, Simla ;

To

Bombay Special, Poona.

Repeated to Secretary of State, London.

Clear-the-Line—

Your telegram No. 165, dated 17th September 1932. We assume that there is no prospect of Gandhi modifying his attitude. If this is so very early publicity is important as we do not want Gandhi's attitude to become public as it well may, through visitors without our reply. We therefore desire if you have no objection to make a statement in Assembly tomorrow morning as follows. Please telegraph today whether you agree and if so whether you have any modifications to suggest. We will telegraph you tomorrow morning final text of statement with a view to communication to Gandhi.

Statement begins—

" In the Statement made in Assembly on September 15th it was announced that Government had decided that as soon as Mr. Gandhi actually begins his fast he should be removed from jail to a suitable place of private residence and that only restriction that would be imposed upon him would be that he should remain there. The intention was that he should in this way be accorded full facilities for discussing problem of depressed classes and for endeavouring to effect an agreement with them. Government while regretting Mr. Gandhi's decision have no wish to force upon him arrangements which are distasteful to him. He will, therefore, in accordance with his request be allowed to remain undisturbed in Yeravda Jail. At the same time Government are most anxious that this change of plan should not affect opportunities for discussion of depressed classes problem which they had contemplated should be available for him. They have therefore decided that unless subsequent developments render any change necessary he should receive in jail all reasonable facilities, private interviews with such persons or deputations as he may wish to see and that there should be no restriction on his correspondence."

Statement ends—

We contemplate that there should be no restrictions on interviews with individuals or small deputations and no jail officer should be present at such interviews ; similarly there should be no restriction on " correspondence ". We trust that this can be arranged without detriment to jail discipline.

Reference paragraph No. 2 of your telegram. We presume—that in accordance with principle stated in our telegram of the 15 th instant, No. 2040, you will have permitted interview with Mathuradas. We think that there is no objection to interviews being allowed freely forthwith.

[True copy]

(Sd.).....,
Assistant Superintendent,

H. D. (Special)

18th September 1932

Received—18-10 hrs.

Decoded—20-35 hrs.

Copies to—

H. E. (P. S. G.),
H. M., H. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 83]

SECRET

TELEGRAM

No. 166, dated the 18th September 1932

To

Home, Simla.

Clear-the-Line—

Your No. 2055, dated 18th September. Influential deputation of leading Hindus including Mathuradas now in Poona and will interview Gandhi tomorrow at 12-45 p.m. when his day of silence will end. It is possible though perhaps not likely that they will persuade him to modify his attitude and Bombay Government would therefore prefer postponement of your proposed statement in the Assembly till Tuesday. We have no objection to form of proposed statement. No restriction will be placed on interviews with small deputations or on reasonable number of individual interviews or on correspondence.

Bombay Special,

.....

Copy to—

H. E. (P. S. G.)

[H. D. (Spl. Dr.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 97]

Copy of statement by the Government of India in the Legislative Assembly on the 20th September 1932.

In the statement made in the Assembly on September 15th it was announced that Government had decided that as soon as Mr. Gandhi actually begins his fast he should be removed from jail to suitable place of private residence and that only restriction that would be imposed upon him would be that he should remain there. The intention was that he should in this way be accorded full facilities for discussing problem of depressed classes and for endeavouring to effect an agreement with them. Mr. Gandhi has addressed following telegram to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy :

" Have just read with considerable pain announcement Government decision remove me on commencement contemplated fast to unknown private residence under certain restrictions. To avoid unnecessary trouble and unnecessary public expense also unnecessary worry to myself I would ask Government not to disturb me for I will be unable to conform to any conditions as to movement from place to place or otherwise that may be attached to foreshadowed release."

Government while regretting Mr. Gandhi's decision have no wish to force upon him arrangements which are distasteful to him. He will, therefore,

in accordance with his request be allowed to remain undisturbed in Yeravda Jail. At the same time Government are most anxious that this change of plan should not affect opportunities for discussion of depressed classes problem which they had contemplated should be available for him. They have therefore decided that unless subsequent developments render any change necessary he should receive in jail all reasonable facilities, private interviews with such persons or deputations as he may wish to see and that there should be no restriction on his correspondence.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 99]

His Excellency desires that Mr. Gandhi should be informed that he can have his own medical adviser if he wishes so and publicity should be given to this. Please inform Inspector-General of Prison accordingly at once.

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON

I have informed Mr. Gennings and Inspector-General of Prison.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 101]

From

Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prison,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

No. 8847 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, dated 22nd September 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to state that on receiving your telephonic message I informed Mr. Gandhi that he could have his own medical adviser if he liked. As soon as I conveyed this message, he made the following statement:

" I thank you for this extension of privilege, but at present I do not need any such outside assistance. I have full confidence in the medical care that is being taken of me by Government. If I need at any stage further advice I shall not hesitate to take advantage of the privilege."

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 855 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd September 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

H. M.,

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON
22nd September

Submitted.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
22nd September

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 103]

SECRET**TELEGRAM**

No. 175, dated the 24th September 1932

To

Home, Simla.

*Repeated to Secretary of State, London.**Clear-the-Line—*

Medical authorities report that Gandhi has now reached stage when two days or so more might see complete collapse both physical and mental and that he is not likely to be able to continue negotiations for much longer. It is just possible that settlement between caste Hindu and depressed class leaders may be reached and agreed to by Gandhi to-night. If reached it will be communicated to Government of India at once. Meanwhile in view of Gandhi's condition we are preparing to move him if necessary to suitable residence near Poona. Gandhi's present intention is to continue fasting until orders on settlement are received from His Majesty's Government but his friends hope to prevail upon him to break his fast pending receipt of these orders.

Bombay Special

Copy to—
H. E. (P. S. G.)

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 105]

SECRET

TELEGRAM

No. 2127, dated the 24th September 1932

From

Home, Simla ;

To

Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Clear-the-Line—

Addressed to all local Governments.

If negotiations at Poona between caste Hindus and depressed classes issue in a definite agreement in modification of Communal Award it will be necessary for Government without delay to decide whether such agreement can be regarded as having general approval of the two communities concerned. It will be necessary for local Government to ascertain that opinion in authoritative way and report to us as early as possible. We would suggest opinion could best be ascertained by summoning representative persons from various localities to confer with Government either separately or together. Such action would have to be taken as soon as possible after publication of agreement.

Copies to—

H. M.,

H. E. (P. S. G.)

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part 1, pp. 119-21]

Poona, 24th September 1932

Dear Mr. Clee,

With reference to the conversation Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru and myself with you this evening when we saw you in company with Mr. Jayakar and Dr. Ambedkar, I tried on my return from jail to get you on the phone but could not. I am therefore writing to you to correct one impression which may have been created on your mind. Two friends tell me that Mahatma Gandhi's vow to fast can be over only by withdrawal of the scheme for separate electorates for the depressed classes and not only by an order of suspension pending consideration of the matter. When I mentioned suspension to you in my talk with you a few days ago I had in view the discussion I had with Mahatma Gandhi regarding suspension pending a referendum. This impression of mine was shared by Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru at this evening's conversation. But on comparing notes with two friends whose knowledge is more intimate and re-reading his letter to the Premier, dated

the 18th August it is possible he may not break his fast without the relevant portion of the award being withdrawn. If you have communicated with the Government of India or the Secretary of State or the Premier on this point of suspension I shall request you to kindly make the correction as indicated above. I am sorry to trouble you at this late hour but I thought it was necessary.

Your sincerely,
(Sd.) CHUNILAL V. MEHTA

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 123]

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEGRAM

No. 2136, dated the 25th September 1932

From

Home, Simla ;

To

Bombay Special, Poona.

Clear-the-Line—

Reference Bombay Government report that Gandhi's condition is such that he may shortly collapse. The Agreement appears to us and to His Majesty's Government reasonable. It is most desirable that if it is to be accepted to accept immediately. There is no time for the procedure suggested in my telegram of yesterday. Please telegraph to reach us to-night whether the local Government consider the Agreement can be regarded reasonably as having the approval of caste Hindus and the depressed classes. The only points in the Agreement on which His Majesty's Government have to express definite acceptance are paragraphs Nos. 1, 2, 5 and 6.

[True copy]

Assistant Superintendent,
H. D. (Spl.).

25th September 1932

Despd.._____

Reced., Poona—16-31 hrs.

Reced. by S. B.—16-50 hrs.

Decoded—17-30 hrs.

To

H. M., H. D

Copy to—

H. S. (P. S. G.)

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 125]

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEGRAM

No. 176, dated the 25th September 1932

To

Home, Simla.

Clear-the-Line—

Your telegram No. 2136 of September 25.

Bombay Government consider agreement can be regarded reasonably as having approval of caste Hindus and depressed classes in this presidency.

Bombay Special

Copy to—
H. S. (P. S. G.)

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 141]

CONFIDENTIAL

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
27th September 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

The substance of what I said to you yesterday before breaking my fast was this. I was breaking the fast not without misgivings in that the British Government's acceptance of the settlement related only to the part that was included in the British Government's communal decision. This was perhaps natural. But I was bound to make my position clear—that I would be in honour bound to secure a due fulfilment of the whole of the settlement. *The second thing that I drew your attention to was that I would expect Government to continue the facilities given to me since 20th for seeing friends and sending messages in the matter of the untouchability question.* The British acceptance has reference only to the political part of the settlement, but the most vital part for the whole of the Hindu community is that relating to social and religious reform. In order to set it on a firm footing it is necessary for me to be in touch with the workers for some time to come. In order to avoid any misunderstanding therefore I mentioned this very important thing to you before breaking the fast.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 143]

CONFIDENTIAL

TELEGRAM

No. 2161, dated the 27th September 1932

From

Home, Simla ;

To

Bombay Special, Poona.

Clear-the-Line—

Now that the agreement has been accepted by His Majesty's Government the purpose for which the removal of the normal—restrictions on correspondence and interviews was allowed has been fulfilled. The Government of India would be glad to know what line you propose to take. They suggest that it may not be desirable to close down these privileges too abruptly, but on the other hand it is obviously important that they should not continue indefinitely and put Gandhi in a privileged position to deal with other matters.

2. The Government of India would also be glad to have a report from the Government Medical Officer on Gandhi's health, and the effect that the fast has had on his constitution.

[True copy]

Asstt. Supdt.,

H. D. (Spl.).

27th September 1932

Reced., Poona—18-35 hrs.

Reced. in S. B.—18-50 hrs.

Decoded—19-15 hrs.

Copies to—

H. E. (P. S. G.)

H. M., H. D.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 145]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 177, dated the 28th September 1932

To

Home, Simla.

Clear-the-Line—

Your telegram No. 2151 of the 27th instant. Bombay Government had recognised that purpose for which the removal of the normal restriction on correspondence and interviews was allowed had been fulfilled and had proposed to revert to the former position in this connection as soon as possible.

In view of Gandhi's condition at conclusion of fast it was deemed advisable not to close down the privileges in regard to correspondence and interviews too abruptly. All interviews with press correspondents were stopped from 27th, but we propose to allow interviews with close relations and intimate friends a day or two longer. Caste Hindu—leaders specially desire to be permitted access to Gandhi to continue campaign for removal of untouchability and Bombay Government are reluctant to place any obstacles in way. We shall restrict permission rigidly to such persons as Gandhi desires to see and as we consider likely to be of assistance purely in regard to this question. Any sign of linking this with civil disobedience activity will result in complete—withdrawal of concessions. Bombay Government's intention in restricting permission as above is to avoid any possibility of impression being created that there is to be any relaxation of the pressure now being maintained upon all forms of civil disobedience activity.

2. For Gandhi's condition please see my telegram No. S.D. 6181 of yesterday's date. The satisfactory progress mentioned therein is being maintained. Full report from the Inspector-General of Prisons will follow.

Bombay Special

Copy to—

H. E. (P. S. G.)

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part 1, p. 151]

CONFIDENTIAL

State Prisoner Gandhi commenced his fast at 12 noon on the 20th September. Before the fast was started he was carefully examined and found to be in perfect health. His weight was 101 lb. Pulse rate 68 per minute.

At the end of the first twenty-four hours there was practically no change in his condition.

2. The strain resulting from the numerous interviews was noticeable on the 22nd and Mr. Gandhi began to show signs of fatigue. He complained for the first time of slight feelings of nausea.

3. On the 23rd his weight was reduced to 96 lb. signs of fatigue and exhaustion were more marked, but his condition was quite satisfactory. There were no abnormal constituents in his urine.

4 24th.—Mr. Gandhi had a deputation late the previous night which did not leave till 10 p.m. The strain of this interview left him exhausted and the mental excitement caused him to sleep badly. This morning he looked pinched and drawn.

His condition was not improved by another Deputation this morning— which carried on till past 11 a.m.

His pulse rate had increased from 70 per minute to 90 per minute when the meeting terminated.

Blood pressure was—

Systolic 180 m.m.

Diastolic 100 m.m.

5. 25th.—The weight today was 93½ lb. Pulse 72 per minute. Blood pressure remaining the same as on the previous day. There was no marked change in his general condition but acetone appeared in small quantity in his urine.

As the day advanced his condition was not quite so satisfactory. At 5 p.m. he vomited once. At bedtime he became very exhausted and weak. He complained of a great deal of nausea. Pulse rate going up to 90 per minute.

He had a very disturbed night.

6. 26th.—A Medical Board was held. After which the following report was issued (copy attached).

During the day it was noticed that his tongue distinctly furred—this had not been the case previously. As the day advanced his general condition was by no means satisfactory and gave rise to anxiety. At 5-20 p.m. he broke his fast by taking 2½ ounces of sweet lime-juice.

His condition did not show any marked signs of improvement before bedtime.

7. 27th.—Passed a very good night. General condition better than it was on the previous day. Tongue still furred. Blood pressure 175 systolic, 100 diastolic. Urine acetone and urea both present in the urine.

During the day he continued to make nourishment as considered advisable— glucose being added to his feeds.

8. 25th.—Weighed today. 94½ lb. in weight. Blood pressure 155 systolic, 95 diastolic. Ura. 1.7 per cent. and acetone in fair quantity, still present in the urine. The general condition is satisfactory, but I consider it is much too early to state dogmatically that his constitution has or has not been affected by his fast though I am personally of opinion that, it has not, and that there is at present no reason to apprehend any complications or sequelae.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part 1, p. 155]

We carefully examined today Mr. M. K. Gandhi and have come to the following unanimous and considered opinion.

2. His vitality is decidedly lower than it was yesterday and is the lowest since he commenced his fast.

3. Today is his day of silence, but we were able to ascertain that he suffered no particular discomfort. The feeling of nausea, which troubled him previously, and caused vomiting yesterday, appears to be less than before.

4. Blood pressure is—

Systolic 185. Diastolic 110.

5. The disturbing features are that both the acetone and URA content in his urine have increased. The later to 1.5 per cent.

6. We are definitely of opinion that this portends entry into the danger zone.

Poona, 26th September 1932

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

(Sd.) M. D. GILDER, M.D.,
M.I.C., Bombay.

(Sd.) P. T. PATEL, M.D.

(Sd.) N. B. MEHTA, Major, I.M.S.,

Deputy Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 65]

TELEGRAM

No. S.D. 6210, dated the 28th September 1932

To

Home, Simla.

Report of the Inspector-General of Prisons regarding present condition of Mr. Gandhi. Begins : Weighed today 94½ lbs. in weight Stop Blood pressure 155 systolic 95 diastolic Stop Ura one point seven per cent, and acetone in fair quantity, still present in the urine Stop The General condition is satisfactory but I consider it is much too early to state dogmatically that his constitution has or has not been affected by his fast—though I am personally of opinion that it has not and there is at present no reason to apprehend any complication or sequelae. Ends.

Bombay Special

Copy to—

H.E. (P. S. G.)

CONFIDENTIAL**TELEGRAM**

No. 2169, dated the 28th September 1932

From

Home, Simla ;

To

Bombay Special, Poona.

Repeated to Secretary of State, London.*Clear-the-Line—*

In continuation of my telegram No. 2151, dated the 27th instant the Government of India on further consideration and in view of the inevitable publicity that Gandhi is getting at present are of opinion that all restrictions previously in force on correspondence and publicity should be reimposed at once. Previous rules about interviews should also be reimposed, but if special applications are received not covered by the rules they should be referred to the Government of India with your opinion, and they will be considered on their merits. Gandhi's position should in fact now be that of a State Prisoner as it was before his fast.

[True copy]

Asstt Supdt.,

H. D. (Special).

Reced., Poona.—23-03 hrs. 28-9-32.

Reced. by S. B.—23-50 hrs. 28-9-32.

Decoded—00-45 hrs. 29-9-32.

Copies to—

H. E. (P. S. G.),
H. M., H. D.**CONFIDENTIAL****TELEGRAM**

No. 2171, dated the 29th September 1932

From

Home, Simla ;

To

Bombay Special, Poona.

Clear-the-Line—

My telegram No. 2169, dated the 28th instant has crossed your telegram No. 177 of that date. We are in general agreement that it is essential to

avoid any possibility of an impression arising that there is to be any relaxation of pressure in dealing with civil disobedience. We have no objection to interviews with close relations and intimate friends subject to normal restrictions. But it is not consistent with the position of Gandhi as a State prisoner to allow him to conduct a campaign in the country even if it is not connected with civil disobedience, and to allow him this latitude will indirectly strengthen his position as the civil disobedience leader. We consider therefore that the position as stated in our telegram should be established at once.

[True copy]

Asstt. Supdt.,

H. D. (Special).

29th September 1932

Reced., Poona—18-20 hrs.

Reced. in S. B.—18-30 hrs.

Decoded—19-05 hrs.

Copies to—

H. E. (P. S. G.)

H. M., H. D.

I have told I. G. Prison that this should be communicated to him officially.

(Sd.) W. F. HUDSON

167

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 6282

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 1st October 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In confirmation of the orders communicated to you verbally by the Honourable the Home Member, I am directed to inform you that the restrictions on State prisoner M. K. Gandhi's correspondence and interviews, which were temporarily withdrawn during his fast, should be reimposed forthwith.

I have, etc.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 187]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 9037 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 29th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to me for your information and any orders that may be considered necessary. Mr. Gandhi has been informed that from now onwards the old procedure which was in vogue before his fast will be adopted as regards correspondence and visitors. I conveyed the orders to him at 12-30 as before that he was busy talking to Pandit Malavia, Mr. Jaykar and others.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I. M. S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 191]

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

29th September 1932

(1-45 p.m.)

Dear Major Bhandari,

The orders you verbally conveyed to me at 12-30 this morning I interpret as follows : I am not to be allowed to see from this date any visitors regarding untouchability or any other public work, except Sjts. Ghanashyamdas Birla and Mathuradas Vissanji. Secondly Mrs. Gandhi should be forthwith removed to the Female Yard ; all other visits to be regulated as before the

fast, under the general instructions that were conveyed to me soon after my admission and amended thereafter. This means that I shall not have the privilege of seeing Shrimati Sarojinidevi, whose presence during my illness has produced a soothing effect on me, nor of my son Devdas and his intended wife, nor of the Ashram inmates who have been in attendance upon me during this crisis. I must confess that I was wholly unprepared for this very sudden and rude reminder that I was but a prisoner whose body was entirely at the mercy of the Government. I would like, however, the Government to know that I am still considered to be convalescent and under orders not even to move from my bed. I had hoped that at least during the convalescent period I would be saved all unnecessary shock to my nerves. However this need not be a matter of moment to the Government and ought not to worry me overmuch, if at all. Indeed I am thankful for the medical attendance that the Government provided for me and the free attendance of visitors and friends during the fast. But what I cannot understand is this sudden stopping of all visits, even in connection with untouchability work, save those of Sjts. Ghanashyamdas and Mathuradas. The Government cannot be unaware of the phenomenal awakening that has taken place in the country, nor of the repercussion of the fast whose limitations have been but little understood and which is being blindly imitated by enthusiastic young men. I therefore hold it absolutely necessary that I should be left entirely free to see whomsoever I consider necessary regarding untouchability. The Government have not yet seemed to have revised their instructions regarding correspondence. Needless to say what applies to visitors regarding untouchability applies equally to correspondence. Nor need I add that I should not have the slightest objection to Government officials and interpreters attending my interviews I might have with visitors and my correspondence being scrutinized. As this is a matter of the greatest urgency, I hope that the Government will favour me with their decision at the earliest possible moment.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 193]

The representation of Mr. Gandhi must, I think, be forwarded to the G. of I.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

30th September

H. E. (P. S. G.)

(Sd.) F. A. SYKES

30th September

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 195]

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 6275

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 30th September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department.

Sir,

In view of the instruction contained in your telegram No. 2169, dated the 28th September 1932, I am directed to forward to the Government of India the attached representation received from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

[H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (4), Part I, p. 197]

R. No. S.D. 8850

10th October 1932

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

HOME DEPARTMENT

EXPRESS LETTER

From

Home, Simla ;

To

Bombay Special, Poona.

No. D. 7985/32-Poll

Dated 7th October 1932

Reference your letter No. S.D. 6275 of the 30th September 1932.

Government of India would be glad to receive as early as possible views of Government of Bombay on position regarding interviews with Gandhi as it stands at present. Government of Bombay have announced that special

facilities will be allowed for attendance of Mrs. Gandhi while Gandhi is convalescent, and Government of India fully approved of this and any other similar temporary relaxations of normal rules on these grounds.

2. With regard to untouchability, we gather that reasonable latitude is being given, and with regard to interviews of a directly political nature, that reference will be made to us, if Government of Bombay are disposed to think that any particular interview might be allowed.

(Sd.) M. G. HALLET,
Secretary to the Government of India.

File No. 9

H. M. should see before noting.

As we do not at present contemplate establishing either special Tribunals or detention camps, it does not seem necessary to frame such rules at once. On return of the papers however the orders regarding Mr. Gandhi's detention on the last occasion will be re-examined, in consultation if necessary with the I. G., Prisons, to see whether they cover all the requirements in case he has to be interned again.

(Sd.) R. M. M.
26/12

H. M.

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

The Government of Bombay do not appear to have issued any general instructions regarding the treatment of persons confined under the Bombay detention and warrants to be issued will be found at p. 119, 121 and 125. Regulation XXV of 1827, nor does it appear that the Regulation or the orders of the G. of I. and of the Secretary of State regarding the application of the Regulation require the issue of such general instructions. The Government of Bengal have had to deal with a fairly large number of detenus under Regulation III of 1818 and they must have thought it desirable to issue general instructions, but this hardly seems necessary so far as this Government is concerned. Mr. Gandhi's case was the second after that of Natu brothers which occurred in 1897.

2. The forms of the Resolution stating the reasons for arrest and detention and warrants to be issued will be found at p. 119, 121 and 125 of File 750(5).

File No. 9

Attention is also invited to the Resolution No. S.D. 1361, dated 5th May 1930 at p. 185 of the same file regarding the grant of an allowance and periodical visits by a public officer and reports on the health of the prisoner to be submitted to Government, as required by sections 2 and 4 of the Regulation. The question of the grant of special facilities was also considered

on the last occasion and will be considered on this occasion also—*vide* notes at pages 5 to 18 of File 750 (5)-A.

Secretary,

As regards facilities, the Bengal rules will be useful for comparison with what was allowed to Mr. Gandhi before.

(Sd.) R. M.M.
31/12
File No. 9

S. No. 520

HOME DEPARTMENT

Instructions for the treatment of persons arrested and detained in jail custody under section 3 of E. P. O. are under consideration and are submitted herewith.

2. The number of interviews and letters to be allowed to such persons have not been specified in the draft instructions. Nor have they been specified in the Jail Manual in respect of under trial prisoners. In the draft instructions, discretion is left to the D. Ms. and C. P., Bombay, in this matter.

3. Rules about diet have been included in the draft instructions.

4. As regards the supply of newspapers, it is proposed to allow them to purchase unobjectionable books or newspapers at their own expense subject to the permission of the D.Ms. and the C. P. The newspapers to be allowed have not been specified. They have been specified only in the case of convicts. (Please see letters Nos. 6039/2-V, dated 18th June 1930 and 22nd July 1930 to I. G., Pr.).

5. The draft instructions will be shown to the I. G. of Prisons before issue.

(Sd.) D. O.

a.s.

13th January 1932

Secretary,

See M. N. as regards interviews. As regards newspapers I have noted on the main file with which this can now be amalgamated.

(Sd.) R. M. M.
14/1
File No. 9

Resubmitted with reference to Secretary's note. As regards newspapers a list of 11 important representative papers was prepared in Home (Political) in April last year for the purpose of the advertisements of the Director of Agriculture in consultation with the O. T. and the D. I. a copy of which is put up. Out of that list the *Times of India* and the *Jam-e-Jamshed*

are allowed to A class prisoners on payment only. The *Indian Daily Mail* and the *Dnyan Prakash* have since been disallowed to A and B class prisoners. The remaining nine papers in the list may therefore be added to those approved for A and B class prisoners on payment and the combined list of 14 newspapers and periodicals may be approved for the persons detained under the Emergency Powers Ordinance.

Mr. Gandhi has been allowed nine papers a list of which is put up. Nos. 1 and 5 in the list have already been included in our approved list, Nos. 2, 3, 7, 8 and 9 have already been disallowed to A and B class prisoners and the remaining Nos. 4 and 6 which belong to other Presidencies need not be included in our combined list.

The draft instructions a clean copy of which is put up may now be shown u. o. to Inspector General of Prisons.

Through Home (Political),
(Sd.) D. O.
15/1
File No. 9

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

There seems to be no objection from the point of view of this section to the supply to the persons detained under the Ordinance of the newspapers and periodicals published in the Bombay Presidency shown in List III—The "Lokahit" however has ceased to exist.

16/1

With draft instructions lists of newspapers and S. B. File containing Bengal Rules.

U.O.R. to I. G. of Prisons, dated 18th January 1932.

File No. 9

Below unofficial reference dated 18th January 1932 from Government in the
Home Department (Poll.), Bombay.

Perused and returned.

Reference Rule 4—

It will not be possible to supply anything but prison clothing to those who have not got sufficient of their own. We have no stock of ordinary clothing—I think there is no harm in giving prison clothing to those who do not supply their own and who want extra clothing from the jail. If it is known that private clothing can be got at Government expense they will all ask for it. They should be given that supplied to B class convicted prisoners.

(Sd.).....

No. 58, dated 21st January 1932.

List of important representative newspapers in English and Vernacular published in the Presy. Proper.

SR. NO.	Name of Paper	Where published	Edition
<i>English</i>			
1.	Times of India	Bombay.	Daily.
2.	Indian Daily Mail	Bombay.	Daily.
<i>Anglo-Gujarati</i>			
3.	Jam-e-Jamshed	Bombay.	Daily.
4.	Gujrat Mitra	Surat.	Weekly.
<i>Marathi</i>			
5.	Lokahit	Bombay.	Daily.
6.	Dnyan Prakash	Poona.	Daily.
7.	Vijayi Maratha	Poona.	Weekly.
8.	Sholapur Samachar	Sholapur.	Daily.
9.	Parikshak	Belgaum.	Weekly.
<i>Urdu</i>			
10.	Muslim Herald	Bombay.	Daily.
<i>English, Marathi and Kanaree</i>			
11.	Vichari	Karwar. (Kanara).	Tri-monthly.

List of papers approved for Mr. Gandhi.

- (1) Times of India.
- (2) Bombay Chronicle.
- (3) Leader (Allahabad).
- (4) Hindu (Madras).
- (5) Indian Social Reformer.
- (6) Tribunal (Lahore).
- (7) Modern Review (Calcutta).
- (8) Young India.
- (9) Navjivan.

CONFIDENTIAL

Prisoners.

Treatment of persons arrested and
detained under section 3 of the
Emergency Powers Ordinance.

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY

HOME DEPARTMENT

Circular No. 205/3

Bombay Castle, 27th January 1932

CIRCULAR

The Governor in Council is pleased to direct that the following instructions should be observed in respect of the treatment of persons arrested and detained in jail custody under section 3 of the Emergency Powers Ordinance No. II of 1932:

(1) As persons so detained have not been convicted of any offence and as the object of their detention is merely to sever them entirely from the Civil Disobedience Movement they should subject to the instructions given below be treated generally as undertrial prisoners and in the case of persons who by social status, education or habit of life have been accustomed to a superior mode of living their treatment should be governed by the instructions issued by the Government of India in paragraph 7 of their Home Department letter No. S. 196, dated the 19th February 1930, printed in the preamble of Government Resolution No. 6039/2-V, dated the 3rd April 1930.

(2) *Classification*—The officer effecting the arrest will make the recommendation as regards classification, viz., in Upper Class or Ordinary Class, based on previous standard of living and communicate his decision to the authority in custody of the persons so detained. When the arrest is not made under the authority of the District Magistrate or the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, the initial recommendation as regards classification should be submitted to the District Magistrate or the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, for confirmation.

(3) *Diet*—The diet provided for B class convicted prisoners should be given to the persons placed in the upper class and the diet of C class prisoners to those in the ordinary class. Persons in either class may be allowed to supplement their diet from private sources through the jail authorities under rule 631 of the Bombay Jail Manual, Part I.

(4) *Clothing*—They should be allowed to wear their own clothing without any political symbols and prison clothing as supplied to B class convicts should be provided only when they are inadequately clad or are unable to obtain clothing from outside.

(5) *Accommodation*—They should be kept separate from the under-trial prisoners and the ordinary convicts.

(6) *Newspapers and books*—They should be permitted to purchase unobjectionable books and magazines at their own expense subject to the permission of the District Magistrates concerned, or of the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, in cases which the Superintendent of the Jail may consider doubtful. They should similarly be supplied with the newspapers allowed to A and B class prisoners, and may be allowed to purchase at their own expense extra copies of these newspapers or of any other papers on the approved list* appended hereto.

(7) *Interviews and letters*—Interviews will be permitted once a week with relatives only, but it will be within the discretion of the District Magistrates or the Commissioner of Police to give special permission for occasional interviews with other persons if he is satisfied that this can be done without detriment to the objects of detention. The time allowed for an interview shall not ordinarily exceed half an hour but it may be extended by the Superintendent of the Prison at his discretion. All the precautions prescribed in rules 461 and 462 of Part I of the Bombay Jail Manual, and in the instructions to be issued by the Inspector-General of Prisons to Superintendents of Jails in this connection should be strictly adhered to.

Three letters per week may be permitted. No letter should be allowed to issue from or to be received by persons so detained, containing any reference to the political situation. For the proper supervision of their correspondence all letters to and from them should be perused by the Superintendent of the Jail who may at his discretion withhold any letter and refer it for orders to the District Magistrate concerned or the Commissioner of Police, Bombay. In all cases in which a letter is withheld the detenu should be informed through the Superintendent of the Jail of the fact of the retention.

Strict supervision should be exercised to prevent these privileges being used for the purpose of conveying messages to the political associates of the persons detained.

By order of the Governor in Council,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

* Printed as an accompaniment to this Circular.

Section II

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS

*Accompaniment to Government Circular in the Home Department,
No. 205/3, dated the 27th January 1932.*

List of newspapers and periodicals which may be allowed to persons detained in jail custody under the Emergency Powers Ordinance, other than those supplied free :

Serial No.	Name of paper	Where	Edition
<i>English</i>			
1.	Times of India	Bombay.	Daily.
2.	Evening News	Bombay.	Daily.
3.	Servant of India	Poona.	Weekly.
4.	Indian Social Reformer.	Bombay.	Weekly.
5.	Indian Review	Madras.	Monthly.
<i>Anglo-Gujarati</i>			
6.	Jam-e-Jamshed	Bombay.	Daily.
7.	Gujarat Mitra	Surat.	Weekly.
<i>Marathi</i>			
8.	Vijayi Maratha	Poona.	Weekly.
9.	Sholapur Samachar	Sholapur.	Daily.
10.	Parikshak	Belgaum.	Weekly.
<i>Sindhi</i>			
11.	Sindwasi	Hyderabad.	Daily.
<i>Urdu</i>			
12..	Muslim Herald	Bombay.	Daily.
<i>English, Marathi and Kanaree</i>			
13.	Vichari	Karwar.	Tri-monthly.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 597 of 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Poona.

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 23rd January 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter written by M. K. Gandhi addressed to H. E. Sir Fredrick Sykes, for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 97 of 1931

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 5th January 1932

Sir,

With reference to our conversation of this morning I have the honour to forward herewith a list made out by M. K. Gandhi showing his requirements.

At present both M. K. Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Patel are being treated in exactly the same manner as the former was treated during his last detention in this prison.

So far no interviews for newspapers have been allowed.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS
Bombay Presidency,
Poona, 6th January 1932

My Dear Maxwell,

I had a talk with Gandhi today, about interviews, correspondence, newspapers etc.

The Home Member requested me to come and discuss these points with you. It is also necessary to discuss matters regarding his treatment in jail. Up to the present Yeravda has made the same arrangements for him as last time, and Vallabhbhai Patel is with him.

I propose therefore to see you on Saturday morning if this time is not inconvenient for you.

Laxton also wants me to go to Arthur Road Jail, so that I can see him at the same time.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN

No. 115 of 1932

From

Major, M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,
Superintendent and Medical Officer,
Central Prison, Yeravda;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 6th January 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter written by M. K. Gandhi for favour of disposal.

Instructions as to whether all correspondence to and from the individual in question should be passed and censored by this office or otherwise is solicited.

Two letters received for M. K. Gandhi are sent herewith for disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison
Bombay, dated the 4th January 1932

My Dear Mr. Gandhi,

The Congress is decorated with mud and stone, and toys, and is given to you all, as an emblem, and your whole life has been spent in vain attempt to bring about a settlement with the Christians, and the Christianity, and through you the educated and the uneducated are revolted and the poors are dying for a piece of bread, and not only .that, the members of the work-shops, nearly two thousand are starving for food with their wives

and children, and you have degraded the Christianity faith, and have endeavoured to go against the Pope and Reverends. The liars who are not believing the Holy-Bible, will not come forward, and in the end the word of Our Lord Jesus Christ, will come to be too true. I have been first and the last, to say the word of Christ, that all people who do not believe in His Word, will not prosper and a large amount of stones, which have neither mouth nor ears to hear, have a great adoration of your community, which to say the truth, is all farce. It is not necessary that you should pride yourself by telling in the hall, that all the Bishops and Reverends should be removed from India. From this it clearly shows how much hatred you have towards Christianity, and in the long run, I find that your attempts for success, has been one of fruitless.

" Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful." " Blessed be the Lord God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting ".

If you should require my help, help to rouse you from you unconscience, apply to me I shall come and explain things which will surprise you very much. For 33 years have I studied this creed and can safely say, to its genuine far and wide.

" The name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy-Ghost, for
all living beings in the World, Amen.

Yours obediently,
(Sd.) PETER DOMINCE KIND,
C/o Stone Esqr. Lloyd's Bank,
Hornby Road, Bombay.

No. 7 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 6th January 1932

To

The Oriental Translator to Government,
Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter written in Hindi received for M. K. Gandhi at present confined in the Yeravda Central Prison for favour of returning the same with its translation into English as usual.

I have etc.,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Major, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

D.O. No. S.D. 116

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Bombay, 7th January 1932

My Dear Martin,

Your letter of the 6th instant, regarding your proposed visit to Bombay to discuss matters about Gandhi.

Saturday morning will be convenient to me.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL
No. S.D. 177

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 7th January 1932

RESOLUTION

In pursuance of the resolution to restrain Mr. Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel under Bombay Regulation XXV of 1827 in the Yeravda Central Prison during the pleasure of Government, the Governor in Council is pleased to direct as follows.

2. An allowance of one hundred rupees per mensem is sanctioned for the maintenance of Mr. Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel. This allowance should be remitted to the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison.

3. The District Magistrate of Poona, or in his absence from his headquarters his Personal Assistant, shall visit Mr. Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel at least twice a month, and submit to Government after each visit a report regarding his health and treatment.

By order of the Governor in Council,
(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 118

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 7th January 1932

RESOLUTION

In pursuance of the resolution to restrain Mr. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi under Bombay Regulation XXV of 1827 in the Yeravda Central Prison during the pleasure of Government, the Governor in Council is pleased to direct as follows.

2. An allowance of one hundred rupees per mensem is sanctioned for the maintenance of Mr. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi. This allowance should be remitted to the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison.

3. The District Magistrate of Poona, or in his absence from his headquarters his Personal Assistant, shall visit Mr. Mohandas Karamchand. Gandhi at least twice a month, and submit to Government after each visit a report regarding his health and treatment.

By order of the Governor in Council,
(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C/4 of 1932
ORIENTAL TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE
Secretariat, Bombay, 9th January 1932

From

Abdul Kadir Muhammad Hussain, Esquire, J.P.,
Oriental Translator to Government;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 7, dated the 6th instant, I have the honour to return herewith a Hindi letter for M. K. Gandhi together with its substance in English.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) A. K. M. HUSSAIN,
Oriental Translator to Government.

No. 191 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 9th January 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith— One letters received
One Telegram

for the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

Below letter No. 191, dated 9th January 1932 from the Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 19 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 12th January 1932

Returned with compliments.

Please deal with as directed in this office confidential endorsement No. 12, dated 11th January 1932.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Major, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return retaining the
accompaniments.

No. 343 of 1932

Noted and returned.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 196 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 9th January 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith p.c. ——received for the
letters

books*

State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

*1 copy Young India.

1 copy Gujarathi Navjiwan.

Below letter No. 196, dated 9th January 1932 from the Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 12 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 11th January 1932

Returned with compliments.

Letters and books may be dealt with by the Superintendent as verbally instructed, namely they may be given to M. K. Gandhi provided they have no political significance or will assist the Congress movement in any way. Newspapers except the *Times of India* should not be given until the list approved by Government is received.

(Sd.)....., Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 13th January 1931

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 20 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 12th January 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 115, dated 6th January 1932, I have the honour to return herewith the Hindi letter, together with its English translation received for M. K. Gandhi and to request that the same may please be delivered to him.

2. The other letter is destroyed.
3. The letter written by M. K. Gandhi has been forwarded to the addressee.

I have the honour to be,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Major, I.M.S.,
Inspector General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

No. 232 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 11th January 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to state that the following treatment is being adopted with regard to detenues :

1. Interviews. One per month with relations, and more if considered necessary.
2. Letters. One per month with relations, and more if considered necessary.
3. Newspapers. "Times of India" (Daily) at own cost.
4. Tobacco and cigarettes will not be permitted.
5. Private clothing allowed.
6. Food from home will be allowed to those desirous of availing themselves of the privilege.
7. Writing materials will only be allowed for letter writing.
8. ' B' class diet to be allowed where considered necessary.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 13 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS OFFICE

Poona, 11th January 1932

Your action is approved pending further orders from Government which I am expecting very shortly.

(Sd.)....., Major, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

No. 341 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 13th January 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.)....., Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 402 of 1932

From

Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, dated 15th January 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith two letters written by M. K. Gandhi, addressed to H. E. Lord Willingdon and Sir Samuel Hoare, for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 31 of 1932

From

Major R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 15th January 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal two letters written by M. K. Gandhi addressed to H. E. Lord Willingdon and Sir Sammuel Hoare.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Major, I.M.S.,

Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. 38

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS

Bombay Presidency

Poona, 16th January 1932

My Dear Maxwell,

I sent yesterday to Home Department two letters from Gandhi one to H. E. the Viceroy and the other to the Secretary of State.

Gandhi requests today that the letter to Sir Sammuel Hoare may please be sent by Air Mail.

Yours,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN

Below Secret letter No. S.D. 310, dated 16th January 1932, from the

Secretary to Government, Home Department (Political), Bombay.

SECRET

No. 43 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 18th January 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information and guidance.

2. I have requested the Surgeon General to make necessary arrangements for the medical examination of the prisoners by the Civil Surgeon of Poona as required by para. 5 of the above letter *vide* copy enclosed.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Major, I.M.S.,

Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

SECRET

No. S.D. 310

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 16th January 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that the Governor in Council has been pleased to issue the following orders with regard to the privileges to be allowed *for the present* to the State prisoners Messrs. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel and regarding the arrangements to be made for their periodical medical examination.

2. *Periodicals and Newspapers*—Both the prisoners should be allowed the following periodicals and newspapers: " *The Times of India* ", " *The Bombay Chronicle* ", " *The Leader*" (Allahabad), " *The Hindu* " (Madras), " *The Indian Social Reformer*", " *The Tribune*" (Lahore), " *The Modern Review* ", " *The Young India*," and " *The Navjivan* ".

3. *Letters*—Both the prisoners may, as requested by them, be allowed to write letters once a week or oftener with the previous permission of the Superintendent of the Prison. All correspondence to and from the prisoners should be censored by the Superintendent of the Prison. Vernacular letters which cannot be translated in the prison should be sent to the Oriental Translator to Government for translation unless the District Magistrate can arrange to have them translated in his office. All objectionable correspondence should be withheld. In doubtful cases a reference should be made to the District Magistrate, Poona. Any letters which the Superintendent considers should be seen by the Police should be forwarded by him to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C.I.D., Poona.

4. *Visitors*—Both the prisoners should be allowed visitors once a week. In the case of Mr. Gandhi the concession will extend to his personal relatives, and to non-political associates and disciples from the Sabarmati Ashram, but the Superintendent will have discretion to refuse an interview with any person who is not a personal relative. No press interviews should in any circumstances be allowed without obtaining the express orders of Government in writing.

In the case of Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel the visitors should be confined to personal relatives, but so long as the two prisoners are confined together there is no objection to their being allowed to see each other's visitors.

All other interviews will require the previous permission of Government.

The period of a single interview should be limited to 20 minutes as allowed to A class prisoners. The general rules to be applicable to such interviews should be those detailed in paragraph 602 (h) of the Jail Manual.

5. *Health and periodical medical examination*—The two prisoners will remain in the medical care of the Superintendent of the Prison, but arrangements should be made in consultation with the Surgeon General with the Government of Bombay for their full medical examination with as little delay as possible by the Civil Surgeon, Poona, in conjunction with the Superintendent and for a report of the examination to be submitted to Government at once. Similar arrangements should be made for subsequent medical examination by the same two officers of Mr. Gandhi once a month and Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel once in three months. A copy of report should in each case be submitted to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor. The Superintendent should also consult the Civil Surgeon, Poona, if at any time either prisoner appears to be suffering in health or is attacked by any serious illness.

6. I am to request that you will communicate to the prisoners, through the Superintendent, the orders in paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 so far as they pertain to them with the omission of the instructions regarding censorship of correspondence in paragraph 3.

7. I am also to request that you will invite the attention of the Superintendent to the first sub-section of section 5 of the Bombay Regulation (copy enclosed) and ask him to furnish Government with a report required by this section.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,

Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

Copy of section 5 of Bombay Regulation XXV of 1827.

5. *First*.—Every officer in whose custody any State prisoner may be placed shall, as soon after taking such prisoner into his custody as may be practicable, report to the Governor in Council whether the degree of confinement to which he may be subjected appears liable to injure his health, and whether the allowance fixed for his support be adequate to the supply of his own wants and those of his family, according to their rank in life.

Report to Government as to confinement, etc., of prisoner.

No. S.D. 362

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 19th January 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 31, dated the 15th January 1932, I am directed to inform you that the letters addressed by Mr. M. K. Gandhi to His Excellency Lord Willingdon and the Honourable Sir Samuel Hoare have been forwarded to the addressees. The letter to Sir Samuel Hoare has been posted today for despatch by Air Mail.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,

Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 55 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 20th January 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir.

With reference to your letter No. 402, dated 15th January 1932, I have the honour to inform you that the letters in question have been forwarded to the addressees. The letter to Sir Samuel Hoare has been posted for despatch by Air Mail.

Please inform Mr. M. K. Gandhi accordingly.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Major, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 74 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 25th January 1932

From

Major R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, a letter written by Mr. M. K. Gandhi, addressed to His Excellency Sir Frederick Sykes.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

No. 598 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 23rd January 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith one Tamil letter received for the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 1201 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 26th January 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Oriental Translator to Government,
Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith one letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi in the Yeravda Central Prison for favour of returning the same with its translation into English as usual.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.).....,

Personal Assistant,
for Inspector-General of Prisons.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 746 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, January 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith one letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 79 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 28th January 1932

From

Major R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter written by M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

No. 234 of 1932

ORIENTAL TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE

Secretariat,

Bombay, 29th January 1932

From

Abdul Kadir Muhammad Hussain, Esquire, J.P.,
Oriental Translator to Government;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

In returning herewith, untranslated, the Vernacular letter received in this office with your letter No. 1201, dated the 26th instant, I have the honour to inform you that it is written in a language (probably Tamil) not known to any one in this office.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) A. K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN,
Oriental Translator to Government.

Destroyed by I.G., P.

30/1

Not necessary to inform Y.C.P.

30/1

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7374/2-C

HOME DEPARTMENT

Bombay Castle, 30th January 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department (Political).

Subject—Prisoner (State).
M. K. Gandhi,
V. J. Patel.

Debit of charges on account of the—

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith copies of Bombay Government Resolution Nos. S.D. 117 and 118, dated the 7th January 1932, sanctioning an allowance of Rs. 100 per mensem for the maintenance of M. K. Gandhi and V. J. Patel, who have been detained as State prisoners in the Yeravda Central Prison under Regulation XXV of 1827, and to state that it is proposed to debit the charges on account of their detention to the Government of India under the head " 29-B-Political—Refugees and State prisoners ", and to meet the charges during the current financial year by reappropriation from the savings anticipated in the provision for ' demarcation of boundaries between British territory and Indian States'. In this connection I am to refer to the correspondence ending with the letter from the Government of India, Home Department, No. D. 3502/30-Political, dated 12th June 1930, about the grant of a similar allowance to Mr. M. K. Gandhi during his previous detention in jail.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

No. 959 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 4th February 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith two letters received for the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

Below letter dated the 7th February 1932 from Mr. Narshi Premji Warsa (in C. P.).

" I herewith sending a letter addressed to Mahatma Gandhi for his advice regarding religious matter."

Sir,

You will come to know from the letter that it has got no political smell. I hope that you will kindly send it to Mahatma Gandhi in Yeravda Central Prison, Poona.

Hoping to be excused for the troubles given.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd.) NARSHI PREMJI

Warsa, dated 7th February 1932

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 126 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 11th February 1932

To

The Superintendent.
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for proposal.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Inspector-General of Prison.

Shantiniketan, Bengal
February 14, 1932

The Inspector-General of Prisons, Poona.

Dear Sir,

I wish to apply for permission to see Mr. Gandhi, sometime between March 15 and March 23. I am an American Professor of Philosophy (at Williams College, in Massachusetts) and my interest here is in the study of Indian religions. I have written two books on the subject " India and its faiths " and " the Pilgrimage of Buddhism " and two books on the Psychology of Religion. It is not politics but questions relating to Hinduism, Christianity and missions that I specially wish to talk over with Mr. Gandhi.

This is my second winter in India the first having been in 1913-14. This year I am spending January and February (with my family) here at Shantiniketan, where I am teaching and lecturing in Tagore's school. My address will be Shantiniketan, Bengal until February 25, when we leave for Bombay, where we plan to arrive on March 14. We are to sail from Bombay on March 24. I could come out from Bombay for Poona any day between those dates. Please let me know whether I could be granted an interview. If your letter is too late to reach me here on February 25, you could reach me C/o The American Express Co., Bombay.

Yours very truly,
(Sd.) JAMES B. PRATT

Below a copy of a letter from the Government of India, Home Department,
No. D..1292/32-Political, dated the 15th February 1932.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7374/2-C

HOME DEPARTMENT

Bombay Castle, 20th February 1932

Copies forwarded with compliments in continuation of Government endorsement No. 7274/2-C, dated the 30th January 1932, for information to:

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
The Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison,
The Political Department,
The Accountant General, Bombay,
The Finance Department.

By order of the Governor in Council,

(Sd.).....,

for Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

No. D. 1292/32-Political

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

HOME DEPARTMENT

From

S. N. Roy, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India;

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

New Delhi, the 15th February 1932

Subject—Sanction to the grant of allowances to Messrs. Gandhi and Patel, State prisoners detained in jail under the Bombay Regulation.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 7374-C, dated the 30th January 1932, I am directed to convey the sanction of the Government of India to the grant to Messrs. M. K. Gandhi and V. J. Patel of allowances of Rs. 100 per mensem each during the period of their detention in jail under the Bombay Regulation XXV of 1827. The Expenditure is debitable to Central Revenues under the head " 29-B-Political—Refugees and State prisoners ".

2. Steps are being taken to accord sanction to the reappropriation indicated in your letter to meet the charges during the current financial year and a copy of the audit order will be communicated to you in due course.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) S. N. Roy,

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 1351 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 16th February 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter from Mr. M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI, Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

Dear Major Martin,

In continuation of my letter to Major Bhandari and in confirmation of our conversation of today, what I need is the human touch with the co-workers who are not known to political fame and who have been brought to Yeravda. I have specially in mind Messrs. Chhaganlal Joshi, Surendranath, Somabhai and my son Ramdas. They, I know, are in the batch that was first sent to Yeravda. I need scarcely say that I have no desire to have any political discussion with them. And I can have no idea whatsoever of interfering with jail discipline.

As the matter has been now hanging for some time I would thank you to expedite it as much as possible.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

Y. C. Prison,

16th February 1932

No. 146 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 17th February 1932

SECRET

From

Major R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter I have received from Mr. M. K. Gandhi. He has raised again the question of interviews between

him and other prisoners in the Yeravda Main Jail or Camp Extension. In this connection I would refer you to Home Department (Special) No. S.D. 4349-Secret, dated 4th October 1930. This subject caused a lot of trouble the last time he was interned in Yeravda Central Prison and I visited Mr. Gandhi yesterday and informed him that I still do not approve of him seeing other prisoners. He is however very firm on the point and I expect will go to his usual length to obtain his demands.

I would therefore suggest that the concession be granted him on the following lines :

(1) Interviews to be permitted with not more than three prisoners at one time and not oftener than every two weeks.

(2) The interviews not to be treated by either side as a means of enquiring into the treatment or conduct of other prisoners in the jail. The jail arrangements discipline and political subjects not to be discussed.

(3) The interviews to take place in the Yard where Mr. Gandhi is confined.

(4) Interview time 20 minutes.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Major, I.M.S.,

Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. 2458 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 17th February 1932

To

Mr. James B. Pratt,
Shantiniketan, Bengal.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter dated 14th February 1932, I have the honour to inform you that you should apply to the Secretary to Government, Home Department, Bombay for permission to see Mr. M. K. Gandhi.

Yours truly,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Major, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

SECRET***EXPRESS LETTER***

No. S.D. 1145, dated 17th February 1932

To

Inspector-General of Prisons,
Poona.

Reference paragraph 4 of Government letter No. S.D. 310, dated 16th January 1932, in which it was stated that Mr. Gandhi should be allowed visitors once a week and the concession extended only to his personal relatives and to non-political associates and disciples from the Sabarmati Ashram, the orders of Government being obtained in all other cases. It is however observed from newspapers that the following persons among others were allowed the concession :

- (1) and (2) Pir Ali Desai and wife.
- (3) Lady Vithaldas Thackersey.
- (4) Mrs. Vijayan.
- (5) Mr. Damodardas Kalyanji.
- (6) Professor Trivedi.
- (7) Mr. S. D. Kalelkar.
- (8) Sheth Punjabhai.
- (9) Mr. Juthabhai.

It does not appear that any of these persons are personal relatives or in any way connected with the Ashram. A reference to Government letter No. S.D. 2299, dated the 14th June 1930, will show that Lady Thackersey's request for a visit to Mr. Gandhi with three others was refused by Government on the last occasion.

S. D. Kalelkar, appears to be the son of Dattatraya Kalelkar of the Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad, an active Congress worker who is at present under detention under section 3 of the Emergency Powers Ordinance.

Please state on what grounds the abovenamed nine persons were allowed to interview Mr. Gandhi.

Bombay Special

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,

Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

SECRET

No. 149 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 18th February 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prisons.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of early report.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Major, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

SECRET

Letter No. 1416, dated the 18th February 1932, from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, to the Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, Poona.

19-2-32

With reference to Government letter No. S.D. 1145, dated the 17th February 1932, I have the honour to state as follows :

According to Home Department No. S.D. 310, dated 16th January 1932, the persons who would be allowed to interview State prisoner M. K. Gandhi fall under the following three categories ; viz. :

- (1) Personal relatives.
- (2) Non-political associates.
- (3) Disciples from the Ashram.

in my opinion persons who have been allowed interviews fall under one of the abovementioned headings:

- (1) and (2) Pir Ali Desai and wife, Mir Bano.

They are intimate friends of State prisoner M. K. Gandhi who has known them for a long time. State prisoner M. K. Gandhi assured me that they have nothing to do with politics. They have stopped in the Ashram for a considerable time and he (Gandhi) to build a special place for them there. They left the Ashram in or about January 1931.

I have never read their names mentioned in any of the newspapers in connection with political activities. According to my judgment they come under the heading of non-political associates.

- (3) Lady Vithaldas Thackersey. As far as I know, and I was given to understand that she is purely a social worker, looking after an Orphanage. I consider her to be a non-political associate of M. K. Gandhi. I very

much regret that I did not know about Government letter No. S.D. 2299, dated the 14th June 1930. I took over charge of this institution in April 1931.

(4) Mrs. Vijayan. Her proper name is Mrs. Hingorani, a Sindhi lady who was a patient in a private hospital in Poona (Mehta's) where she was undergoing some Wiesetic treatment under M. K. Gandhi's instructions. She wanted to know whether she should give up the treatment or not. She has not been known to take part in politics. In my opinion she came under the heading of non-political associates.

(5) Mr. Damodhardas Kalyanji. He is unknown to political world according to M. K. Gandhi. He said that he was purely a private friend, under his moral influence. Naturally I took him for a non-political associate.

(6) Professor Trivedi. He is a Government servant and a personal friend of M. K. Gandhi, of a very long standing. (Non-political associate).

(7) Mr. S. D. Kalelkar. A disciple from the Ashram who has been there from infancy. In the letter that I received from the Ashram his name was not mentioned. Only four persons were mentioned one of them being an old man of 75 who could hardly walk and had to be supported by two

persons when brought to my office. This boy supported him on one side and I took him for a servant. He was never addressed as Kalelkar in my presence. Everybody called him Shankar (probably his Christian name). I am very sorry for this oversight.

(8) Sheth Punjabhai. An old man 75 is a disciple from the Ashram. He is still living in the Ashram. (Disciples from Ashram).

(9) Mr. Juthabhai. He was an attendant on No. 8. He hardly spoke to anybody. The only thing he did most of the time was to hold a napkin for the old man to spit.

Another interview was granted yesterday to Mira Ben, Mr. Valji an inmate of the Ashram for the last 10 years and Lilavati, a young widow of about 16 who is also an inmate of Ashram.

I very much regret if interviews have been given to persons considered undesirable by Government in any case I assure the Government that all interviews took place in my presence and the presence of the Jailor, and there was no mention of politics at all.

In this connection I would submit that I judge people from what I read about them in the Newspapers. I suggest that some other arrangement may be made, so that the responsibility of allowing interviews should rest with the person who knows more about the people who ask for interviews with M. K. Gandhi than I do.

SECRET

No. 155 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 19th February 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Forwarded with compliments the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison reads the Government orders differently to my reading of them.

I understand two categories—

1. Personal relatives.
2. (a) Non-political associates (of the Ashram).
(b) Disciples from the Ashram.

It appears that either may be correct.

I admit it is very difficult for the Superintendent to know who is objectionable and who is not, unless their names happen to be known to him from newspaper reports or otherwise. I suggest that names should in future be submitted to the Superintendent one week before the interview is due, and they may then be forwarded either to Government for orders, or to some one detailed by Government for this purpose, such as the District Magistrate.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN, Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Tilak Road, Poona-2

Dated 24th February 1932

Prof. J. P. Trivedi,
L.C.E. AMIE (Ind.)

Dear Sir,

I am asked to inform you that the following persons will come tomorrow Thursday the 25th instant between 12 to 1 p.m. to have the usual weekly interview with Mahatma Gandhiji:

1. Lady Thackersy.
2. Sjt. Jivanji Dahyabhai Desai.
3. Sjt. Yeshvant Prasad Desai.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) J. P. TRIVEDI

To

Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,
Superintendent Central Prison, Yeravda.

Letter No. 1681, dated 25th February 1932 from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison to the Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, Poona.

In. No. 289

25-2-32

I have the honour to enclose herewith an application for interview with M. K. Gandhi. The interview has been refused. No interview will be given till further orders from Government.

No. 169 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 25th February 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of orders.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,

Major, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Yeravda, 26th February 1932

My Dear Martin,

M. K. Gandhi is making enquiries every day about interviews with his son and friends from the Camp Jail. He appears to be rather anxious about it.

Vallabhbhai Patel's son and his wife are coming for interview tomorrow. So far M. K. Gandhi never wanted to see V. P.'s friends, today he has asked me that he would like to see them. According to Government orders they are allowed to see of each others friends. But after what has happened I am afraid I would not like to take the responsibility. I would only allow the interview to M. K. Gandhi if you think it is alright.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI

P.S.—I am very sorry I was not able to sent the bullock cart the other day. Both the carts were out at the time.

M. G. BHANDARI

D.O. 170

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS

Bombay Presidency

Poona, 26th February 1932

My Dear,

Your D.O. of 26th instant.

I did not reply at once as I waited to see if any reply had come—Gandhi to see Vallabhbhai's son and his wife tomorrow.

Will you please tell him that as regards the Camp interviews the reply may be expected at any minute and he need not be anxious.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN

To

Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 1826 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 1st March 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of further disposal.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Dear Major Martin,

As you know, for two weeks now I have not had any visitors. They have been stopped, because I understand the Government are revising the instructions that have been in force in this connection. The suspense is tantalising for me and inconvenient for those who wish to visit me. I would therefore like an early decision in the matter.

The question of seeing my companions who have been brought to this prison and on which I wrote to you a fortnight ago is much more vital for me. As I have said, this meeting some of my companions now and there is a human want I may not deny myself without shaking and impairing the whole nervous systems. I had hoped that you would procure an early decision as I have simply asked for a repetition of what was considered reasonable by the Government last year. I press for an early reply.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

Yeravda Central Prison

1st March 1932

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 184 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 1st March 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

SECRET

No. 186 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 2nd March 1932

From

Major R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

The attached letter received from M. K. Gandhi is forwarded for information in continuation of this office Nos. 146 of 17th February 1932 and 169 of 25th February 1932. It is requested that very early orders may please be passed on the question of interviews between the detenue and other prisoners confined in Yeravda Main and Camp Jails who he wishes to see.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,

Major, I.M.S.,

Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. S.D. 1560

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 3rd March 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons.

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your endorsement No. 155, dated the 19th February 1932, regarding the classes of visitors to be allowed to see State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, I am directed by the Governor in Council to State that the following should be substituted for paragraph 4 of my letter No. S.D. 310, dated the 16th January 1932 :

" 4. *Visitors*.—Both the prisoners should be allowed visitors once a week :

In the case of Mr. Gandhi the concession will extend to the following classes of visitors :

(1) Personal relatives.

(2) Non-political inmates of the Sabarmati Ashram (as regards whom Mr. Gandhi's own certificate may be accepted).

(3) Non-political personal friends from outside the Ashram, of whom Mr. Gandhi may furnish a general list for the approval of Government in the first instance, with the understanding that others might be admitted with the previous approval of Government in each case.

In the case of Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel the visitors should be confined to personal relatives.

So long, however, as the two prisoners are confined together there is no objection to their being allowed to see each other's visitors.

In all other cases the previous orders of Government should be obtained. No press interviews should in any circumstances be allowed without the express orders of Government in writing.

The period of a single interview should be limited to 20 minutes as allowed to 'A' class prisoners. The general rules to be applicable to such interviews should be those detailed in paragraph 602 (h) of the "Jail Manual".

2. The two prisoners should be informed of the revised orders.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

SECRET

No. 191 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 4th March 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information and guidance with reference to his letter No. 1416, dated 18th February 1932.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

SECRET

No. S.D. 1568
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 4th March 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esqr., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Subject.—Interviews between State prisoner Gandhi and other prisoners in the Yeravda Jail or Camp Extension.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 146, dated the 17th February 1932, I am directed by the Governor in Council to inform you that State prisoner Gandhi should be allowed one interview with his son Ramdas. He should be informed that his request to be permitted to see other prisoners is under the consideration of Government.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

SECRET

No. 194 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 7th March 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information with reference to his letter No. 1351, dated the 16th February 1932.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

No. 2011 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 7th March 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to state that State prisoner M. K. Gandhi sent one letter to prisoner Jairamdas Daulatram confined in Karachi District Prisons

on 25th February 1932. The Superintendent, Karachi District Prison, returns the letter informing that the correspondence between the prisoners from one jail to another is disallowed as per Inspector-General of Prisons' Confidential No. 161, dated 22nd February 1932. I have therefore to request you to kindly send copy of the above quoted letter as the same does not seem to have been received in this office.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 1990 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, dated 7th March 1932

From

Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement (Confl.) No. 191, dated 4th March 1932, forwarding a copy of Home Department letter No. S.D. 1560, dated 3rd March 1932, regarding visitors to be allowed to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi I have the honour to send herewith a letter received from M. K. Gandhi in connection with his visitors.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Dear Major Bhandari,

You have kindly given me a copy of the fresh instructions issued by the Government about the weekly visits.

I appreciate the trust reposed in me regarding the determination as to who shall be considered political inmates of the Ashram. I am anxious to be true to the trusts. But before I could do so there should be a common definition of the adjective "political" between the Government and me. I take "political" to mean those who are politically minded and are actually taking part in politics as apart from civil resistance. For if by "political" are meant those who have been heretofore imprisoned as civil resistors or are believers in the doctrine of civil resistance, then there is no non-political inmate in the Ashram. If however the meaning as I have given it there are only three political inmates. I mean Sjts. Mahadeo Desai, Pyarelal and Devdas Gandhi. But if I may not see the first two, I may not see Devdas Gandhi for they are like Devdas to me. As it so happens, they are all incarcerated. I may also mention that at the present moment there are only boys and girls and a few adults who are reserved for looking after the youngsters and the multifarious industrial activities of the Ashram.

It is difficult, too for me to submit a list of non-Ashram friends till I know the definition that the Government have in mind of the term "political". I shall await reply to this before I submit a fairly full list for approval. But meanwhile I give below illustrative names of those friends whom I regard as non-political and whom I would put in the same category as my relatives.

Lady Thackersey residence Yeravda Hill. She is a social worker. She helped me during my serious illness in 1923 when I was a patient in the Sassoon Hospital.

Prof. Trivedi of the Agricultural College, Poona. He stands to me in the same close contact as Lady Thackersey.

Yeshwant Prasad Desai. Mill-owner residing in Matunga. He nursed me during the same illness and took up his abode in Poona for helping me.

Pyare Ali and his wife living in retirement at a retreat near Thana, where they have taken in a few muslim orphans. They lived nearly a year at the Ashram. They are a deeply religious couple.

These friends are in no sense political.

Pending reply to this letter I have written to the Manager of the Ashram to send those inmates who, may wish to visit me.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

Y.C.P.

6th March 1932

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 196 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 7th March 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department Letter No. S.D. 1560, dated the 3rd instant, I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, a letter written by Mr. M. K. Gandhi to Major Bhandari, I.M.S. in connection with his visitors.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

(Sd.) R.V.MARTIN,

Major, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. 201 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 8th March 1932

Returned with compliments.

It is not considered desirable that political prisoners should communicate with each other whilst in the same or in different prisons, unless special reasons exist, in which case the circumstances should be reported to this office for orders.

(Sd.).....,

Major, I.M.S.,

Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Please return

No. 2197 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 10th March 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 2232 of 1932
11th March 1932

From

Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Central Prison, Yeravda ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I herewith enclose two letters one for—His Excellency the Governor of Bombay and Second for The Rt. Hon'ble Sir Samuel Hoare enclosed in No. 1 from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

File No. 208 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 11th March 1932

From

Major R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith for disposal two letters from the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to—

1. His Excellency the Governor of Bombay ;
2. The Right Honourable, the Secretary of State for India.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant.
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. SD. 2012
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 7th March 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esqr., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

I am directed to say that Government think it desirable that Mahadeo Haribhai Desai, who was State prisoner Gandhi's Private Secretary before the latter's internment and who was convicted at Ahmedabad on the 5th ultimo under section 21 of Ordinance II of 1932 and sentenced to one and a half years' rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 200 in default three months rigorous imprisonment, should be sent to the Yeravda Central Prison and permitted to be State prisoner Gandhi's convict attendant. I am to request that you will make the necessary arrangements at an early date.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,

Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 197 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 8th March 1932

MEMORANDUM

Please arrange immediately for the transfer of prisoner Mahadeo Haribhai Desai to Yeravda Central Prison reporting the date of his departure to this office.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,

Major, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. 198 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 8th March 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Nasik Road, Central Prison ;

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information. On the arrival of the prisoner in his jail he may be permitted to be State prisoner Gandhi's convict attendant.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 1384 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Nasik Road, 10th March 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Central Prison, Nasik Road ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay- Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that prisoner ' B' class, Mahadeo Haribhai Desai has this day been transferred to Yeravda Central Prison—in compliance with your memorandum No. 197, dated 8th March 1932.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant.
(Sd.).....,
Superintendent,
Nasik Road Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 2196 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 10th March 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda, Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter received from ' A ' class prisoner Miss Slade who is confined in Arthur Road Prison, to the address of State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 2104 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 9th March 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, to the address of the Superintendent Visapur Temporary Prison for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Below letter No. 2104, dated 9th March 1932, from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 207 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 10th March 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of orders.

Correspondence between persons convicted during the present movement with others in another prison is generally undesirable, and I have stopped most letters which have been referred to me, by Superintendents of Prisons.

As the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi is now also starting to write such letters—I think a ruling of Government is required, as to whether civil disobedience prisoners should be allowed to write to each other from different jails. The attached letter I consider objectionable on account of the first three lines in the English translation.

I am informed that a long letter has been received from Miss Slade for M. K. Gandhi, I have not yet seen it but if it contains unobjectionable mailer as regards jails and politics, should he be given the letter ?

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,

Major, T.M.S.,

Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Translation of accompanying Gujarali letter

Dear Kaka,

(How are you ? What food you get ? How many are with you and who are they ? How is Prabhudas ? What food he gets ? Inform me about your weight and that of Prabhudas ?) Similar questions I have asked Mr. Quinn fearing you might not get this letter. What are you reading ? We both are alright here. For the present I take dry dates, lime juice, green vegetables and almond bread. I am not constipated. If my weight goes down I will take milk again. I intend writing " Bal Gita " and have commenced writing " Imamsaheb's Siran " I am studying position of stars and for that I take assistance of that Gujarati book which is translated from Marathi and also see the maps given in Weekly Times. I get up at night and see the positions of stars. This time I hardly send for books. But I get some books from America. I think I will not be able to study Marathi this time. I feel weak and require more sleep. Perhaps after long rest I might regain my strength. How is Narhari ? My blessings to you all.

Yours,

(Sd.),.....

13th March

Dear Rao Saheb,

Please attend to this Home Department Letter.

The other letters can wait till Monday.

Please see what is it about. How is it that it is not received. Send a copy today. I am not at home.

(Sd.).....

13th March 1932

No. S.D. 2143

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 12th March 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esqr., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 207, dated the 10th March 1932, I am directed to state that the letter No. 2104, dated the 9th March 1932, from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, said to have been forwarded with your endorsement has not been received in this office. I am to request that the letter or a copy of it may kindly be forwarded.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.),

for Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

No. 211 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 13th March 1932

From

Major R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department letter No. S.D. 2143, dated 12th March 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith a copy

of letter No. 2104, dated 9th March 1932, from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, as desired therein.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
Major, I.M.S.,
for Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

SECRET

No. S.D. 2123
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 11th March 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esqr., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 196, dated the 7th March 1932, I am directed to request that State prisoner Gandhi may be informed that the term " non-political" used in the orders of Government regarding the classes of visitors who may be permitted to interview him means " not taking any part in politics ".

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

No. 209 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 12th March 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information and necessary action with reference to his Confidential letter No. 1990, dated the 7th March 1932.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency,

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 212 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 14th March 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, a letter from the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the Home Secretary to the Government of India.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,

Major, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 2295 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 14th March 1932

From

Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Central Prison, Yeravda;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, to the address of Mr. H. W. Emerson, Home Secretary to the Government of India, for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 2296 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 14th March 1932

From

Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Central Prison, Yeravda;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 194 of 7th March 1932, forwarding copy of letter No. S.D. 1568, Home Department (Political), dated 4th March 1932, from the Secretary to Government of Bombay, I have the honour to enquire whether State prisoner M. K. Gandhi is to be allowed only one interview with his son Ramdas who is confined in the Extension Camp Prison.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 214 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 14th March 1932

Forwarded with compliments.

The letter referred to States"" one interview with his son Ramdas ".

Please return.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS
Bombay Presidency
Poona, 15th March 1932

My Dear Maxwell,

I enclose a letter I have just received from M. K. Gandhi. May I please have a reply by return regarding interviews with other prisoners. He seems to be getting very agitated on the subject.

I have no knowledge regarding the illness of the prisoner he mentions.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN
Poona, 15th March 1932

My Dear Bhandari,

What is the matter with Haridas Gandhi if anything ? Please give the enclosed to M. K. Gandhi.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
Dated 16th March 1932

D.O.

My Dear Martin,

Haridas Gandhi is one of the two cases of Tuberculosis received from Visapur on 2nd March 1932. He states he has lost 26 lbs. in weight. He looks weak and emaciated I don't find anything in his chest. He complains of constipation and pain in Umbellical region and I think he has got one or two enlarged glands in the abdomen. He suffers from frequency of nutrition. Urine is pale and watery and shows low sp. gravity (1001). In my opinion it is a case of Diabetes insipidus. (There is no sugar in urine.) He has increased in weight by 2 lbs. during the last fortnight.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI
No. 2377 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
16th March 1932

R.W.C.

I did not have much difficulty in understanding what was written in the letter. The reference was made to H.O. so as to get standing orders on this point, as I am sure State prisoner M. K. Gandhi will ask for another interview with his son shortly. To avoid referring every time to Government or the H.O., I wrote the last letter.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI

SECRET

No. S.D. 2357
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 16th March 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esqr. C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Subject.—Interviews between Mr. Gandhi and other prisoners in the Yeravda Jail or Camp Extension.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. S.D. 1568, dated the 4th March 1932, I am directed to state that Mr. Gandhi may be allowed to see other prisoners in the Yeravda Main Jail or Camp Extension on the conditions suggested by you, namely :

1. Interviews to be permitted with not more than three prisoners at one time, and not oftener than once in two weeks.
2. The interviews not to be treated by either side as a means of enquiring into the treatment or conduct of other prisoners in the jail. The jail arrangements, discipline and political subjects not to be discussed.
3. The interviews to take place in the yard where Mr. Gandhi is confined.
4. Interview time 20 minutes.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,

Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

SECRET

No. 223 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 17th March 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

In continuation of this office No. 194, dated 7th March 1932, I am directed to state that Mr. Gandhi may be allowed to see other prisoners in the Yeravda Main Jail or Camp Extension on the following conditions:

1. Interviews to be permitted with not more than three prisoners at one time and not oftener than once in two weeks.

2. The interviews not to be treated by either side as a means of enquiring into the treatment or conduct of other prisoners in the jail. The jail arrangements, discipline and political subjects not to be discussed.
3. The interviews to take place in the yard where Mr. Gandhi is confined.
4. Interview time 20 minutes.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

Budget Grants: 1931-32.
Allowances to Messrs. M. K.
Gandhi and V. J. Patel, State
prisoners, detained under the
Bombay Regulation XXV of
1827.

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

Resolution No. 8904

Bombay Castle, 18th March 1932

Read memorandum from the Home Department No. 7374/2-C, dated the 20th February 1932.

Letter from the Government of India in the Home Department (Political) No. D. 1292/32-Poll., dated the 3rd March 1932 :

"With reference to paragraph 2 of the Home Department letter No. D. 1292/32-Poll., dated the 15th February 1932, I am directed to say that the Government of Bombay are themselves competent under Rule 51, Part II of the Book of Financial Powers (reprint) to sanction the re-appropriation of the amount involved during the current financial year from the head ' Demarcation of boundaries between British Territory and Indian States' to the head ' 29-B, Political—Refugees and State Prisoners' to meet the charges on account of the allowances sanctioned for Messrs. Gandhi and Patel, and to request that action may be taken accordingly."

Memorandum from the Home Department, No. 7374/2-C, dated the 11th March 1932—
Transferring the above.

RESOLUTION : The Governor in Council is pleased to sanction the following reappropriation under " 29-Political" (Central) to meet the expenditure during the current financial year on account of the allowances to Messrs. M. K. Gandhi and V. J. Patel.

From Sub-head

Account II—Other Expenditure Heads.
K-4(3)—Other Expenses—Demarcation of boundaries between British Territory and Indian States.

To Sub-head

Account II-Other Expenditure Heads.
G-Refugees and State Prisoners.
Rs. 400.

By order of the Governor in Council,
(Sd.).....,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Political Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 2611 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 21st March 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your Confidential No. 233, dated nil, I have the honour to state that I presume that State prisoner Gandhi's son is included among the three prisoners who are to be allowed to have interview with him, if he so desires.

2. As suggested verbally during our conversation on the subject, the interview was given in my office and I will stick to this procedure in future.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 238 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 22nd March 1932

Returned with compliments.
Gandhi's son may be included in the three.
Your para. 2 is noted and approved.

(Sd.).....,
Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return.

No. 2715 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
24th March 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 237 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 22nd March 1932

From

Major R. V. MARTIN, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Bombay.

Subject.—Interviews between Mr. Gandhi and other prisoners in
the Yeravda Jail or Camp Extension.

Sir,

With reference to Government letter, Home Department (Political), No. S.D. 2357, dated the 16th March 1932, I have the honour to report regarding para. 3 it is now considered better for the interviews to take place in the Superintendent's Office with Mr. Gandhi alone. His companions in the yard make the interview difficult to control. I have instructed the

Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, to take the interviews in his office in future.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 235 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 22nd March 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to solicit a reference to this office Confidential endorsement No. 207, dated the 10th March 1932, enquiring as to whether C.D.O. prisoners should be allowed to write to each other from different jails etc., and to request the favour of Government being pleased to issue early orders thereon.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 2475

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 22nd March 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esqr., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 207, dated the 10th March 1932, in which you ask for a ruling whether civil disobedience prisoners should be

allowed to write to one another from different jails, I am directed to inform you that the normal jail rules in this respect as regards convicts should be adhered to. Mr. Gandhi, however, being a State prisoner, is in a different position and should be allowed to receive letters from other prisoners and to write to them subject to the conditions prescribed in para. 3 of Government letter No. S.D. 310, dated the 16th January 1932, with respect to correspondence with outsiders, but the Superintendent shall have the discretion to withhold any letters which, on account of references to political or jail matters or for other reasons, are considered by him to be objectionable. Miss Slade's letters to Mr. Gandhi should be dealt with on these lines. Government see no objection to the letter addressed by Mr. Gandhi to the Superintendent of the Visapur Jail with the letter to convict Kalelkar attached to it being allowed to go on. The cover containing these two letters is herewith returned.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.),

for Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 2629 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 22nd March 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

In continuation of this office No. 1990, dated 7th March 1932, forwarding a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi in connection with his visitors. I have the honour to state that M. K. Gandhi wishes to know whether any reply is received from Government regarding interviewing non-political friends mentioned in his letter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 240 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 22nd March 1932

Returned with compliments.
No reply has yet been received.

(Sd.),
Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return.

No. 2713 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
24th March 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 246 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 24th March 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your No. 2196, dated 10th March 1932, I have the honour to return herewith a letter written to the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to inform you that he may be allowed to receive letters from other prisoners subject to the conditions prescribed in para. 3 of Government letter No. S.D. 310, dated 16th January 1932, with respect to correspondence with outsiders, but you will have the discretion to withhold any letters which on account of references to political or jail matters or for other reasons are considered by you to be objectionable.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.).....

Major I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 245 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 24th March 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Superintendent,
Visapur Temporary Prison.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward a letter addressed to you from the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi. The letter was delayed in my office pending a Government ruling. You may reply to the letter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,

Major, I.M.S.,

Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 2365 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 25th March 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir.

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 2800 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 28th March 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to H. W. Emerson, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, New Delhi, for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 252 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 29th March 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to H. W. Emerson, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, New Delhi.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 2831 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 29th March 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to Dr. Norwood, London City Temple, London, for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 262 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 30th March 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to Dr. Norwood, London City Temple, London.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Major, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

SECRET

No. S.D. 2649

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 31st March 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esqr., CLE., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Subject.—Interviews between Mr. Gandhi and other prisoners in the Yeravda Jail or
Camp Extension.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 237, dated the 22nd March 1932, regarding interviews between Mr. Gandhi and other prisoners in the Yeravda Central Prison, I am directed to state that Government approve of your action in instructing the Superintendent of the prison that such interviews should take place in his office in future instead of in the yard.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.).....,

for Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 2881 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 30th March 1932

From

Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Central Prison, Yeravda ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi. This has reference to his letter dated 6th instant which was forwarded to you under this office No. 1990-A, dated 7th March 1932.

A reminder was sent by this office No. 2629-B, dated 22nd March 1932. You informed me that no reply had been received, as per your No. 240-C, dated 22nd March 1932.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Dear Major Bhandari,

With reference to my letter of the 6th instant, I have the definition of the expression ' non-political' which I observe corresponds to mine, but I have yet to have the reply with reference to the five illustrative names submitted of non-Ashram friends who are likely to want to visit me or who I am likely to see. I shall be obliged if the reply can now be given. I am waiting for that reply to prepare the list desired by the Government.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 263 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 31st March 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

In continuation of this office Confidential letter No. 196, dated 7th March 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith for favour of orders a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

SECRET

No. 273 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 1st April 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information in continuation of this office Confidential No. 238, dated 22nd March 1932.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

No. 2990 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 4th April 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith two letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to request you to kindly inform me whether the same may be handed over to him.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Translation of letter marked A

Khadi Pratisthan, Sodpur

1st April 1932

Bapu,

Your letter is received. I have realised my mistake. Pain at my inability to act according to the Gita, and unfitness to follow Lord's words is the cause of my weakness. If I were able now to make a self-examination my mind would not have been unsteady. My previous letter has acquainted you with my ignorance. My powers are very limited and my knowledge is almost nil. But my only desire is this how I can know *satya*—truth. I have been

thinking over how to realise its close and complete form ; nay it is my desire : Bapu, this fact is not in the least untrue. You will trust me and guide me. After repeated tests I have seen that except thinking of God nothing in the world has satisfied me. Throughout the day from morning till evening in whatever I am doing if there is no idea of God I derive no happiness in that work. If there is less of this idea in my mind then I am pained. I wish that all my actions may take the form of service of God before me and my (individual) existence may disappear. However, when perplexity of work, and action and reaction coming from all the four sides confound me then it becomes difficult for me to remain steady. I am pained on this account.

Today the state of my mind is not such as it had become after the death of Tarini. At that time—believe me, the mercy of God was continuously pouring on me. At this time I do not receive His sympathies. I have been making efforts. I keep awake always. Further (I wish for) God's mercy and your blessings.

Charm is not keeping well. He has been sent out for change.

I am today sending the letter (you have) sent to Shankerlalji regarding the financial position of the Khadi Pratisthan.

Nearly 20-28 days ago Acharya Rai had sent you a long letter. He wishes to know if you have received it or not.

My salutations.

HEMPRABHA

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 278 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 5th April 1932

From

Major R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, two letters together with their accompaniments received from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, on behalf of State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,

Major, I.M.S.,

Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 11th April 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a telegram which State prisoner M. K. Gandhi wants to send to Allahabad for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

TELEGRAM

Ordinary

To

Kamala Nehru,
Anand Bhuwan, Allahabad.

Distressed learn mother sustained injury at public meeting and Ranjit laid up fever. Hope nothing serious please wire full particulars.

From—Bapu

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,

Major, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 296 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 11th April 1932

From

Major R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith for favour of disposal a telegram from the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, forwarded by the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,

Major, I.M.S.,

Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 2950

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 13th April 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esqr., CLE., I.C.E.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

In returning herewith the telegram from Mr. M. K. Gandhi forwarded with your letter No. 296, dated the 11th instant, I am directed to inform you that it may be despatched to the addressee.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.),

for Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

13th April 1932

Dear Major Martin,

It was on the 6th of March that I wrote to Major Bhandari about interviews with non-political associates. I sent a remainder on the 30th March, but I am still without a reply. It is high time that I got a reply about the illustrative list I have already submitted. It causes me much inconvenience and some anxiety not to be able to see some of the friends I should like to see and who would like to see me.

2. The Government have been good enough to appreciate my desire to write to my prison-associates about their welfare. In virtue of the permission, I have been writing to some of them, but from Belgaum I can get no answer. I have written to Shrimati Maniben Patel. She is Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's daughter, but she has been under the Ashram discipline for over ten years. I knew from the letter that was received some time ago by her father that she had been ailing. I therefore wrote to her asking her to tell me all about her health, but I can get no answer. Then there is Kaka Kalelkar whom you know well and who as you are aware has suffered from tuberculosis and requires special care I have written to him also and can get no reply. The third is Prabhudas Gandhi a nearby related cousin of mine, brought up under me as an infant whilst I was in South Africa. He is suffering from the same disease as Kaka Kalelkar and has been under special treatment. And there is Sjt. Narahari Parikh, a member of the Ashram, an old associate. He is also in the Belgaum Prison. I inquired about these last two of Kakasaheb Kalelkar, but can get no information. Will you please get the necessary information about their health, diet and weight. Absence of any news about them is a cause of considerable anxiety to me.

3. I shall be obliged if you will kindly ascertain for me whether the telegram I handed to Major Bhandari addressed to Allahabad making inquiries about the injuries sustained by Mrs. Motilal Nehru and illness of her son-in-law Sjt. Ranjit Pandit was duly sent. I may mention that my relations with the Nehrus are more private and intimate than political and naturally I am deeply interested in the health and general welfare of the members of the Nehru family.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS

Bombay Presidency

Poona, 14th April 1932

Dear Mr. Gandhi,

I regret I have been unable to give you an answer as yet to your query about non-political associates, I am again asking Government to expedite their reply. As regards your letter to your friends in Belgaum Prison, I know they have been given the letter, but it is possible they have not yet replied as they may not have been entitled to a letter. I will make enquiries. As I have not heard anything about any of them not being in good health, I think, you may rest assured on this point.

The telegram was dispatched by me the same day to Government for disposal, and it has been telegraphed to the addressee.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN

To

Mr. M. K. Gandhi,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 302 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 14th April 1932

MEMORANDUM

In forwarding herewith a voucher for a sum of Rs. 1-11-0 spent by this office for despatching a telegram received with his confidential letter No. 3241, dated the 11th instant, the Superintendent is requested to debit the amount to the account of Mr. M. K. Gandhi and to remit it to this office at an early date.

(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Poona, 14th April 1932

My dear Bhandari,

Please give this enclosed to M. K. Gandhi in reply to his letter to me.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 301 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 14th April 1932

From

Major R. V. Martin, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to solicit reference to this office confidential letter No. 263, dated 31st March 1932, about interviews with non-political associates

etc., and to request the favour of Government being pleased to issue early orders as State prisoner M. K. Gandhi is desirous of an early reply thereto.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. V. MARTIN,
Major, I.M.S.,
Officiating Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 2990
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 15th April 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 263, dated the 31st March 1932, I am directed to request that Mr. Gandhi may be informed, with reference to the five illustrative names furnished by him of persons who are likely to wish to visit him or whom he may desire to see, that Government have no objection to the marginally named four persons visiting him. As regards Professor

1. Lady Thackersey
2. Mr. Yeshwant Prasad Desai
3. Mr. Pir Ali Muraj, and
4. Mrs. Pir Ali Muraj

J. P. Trivedi of the Agricultural College, Poona, it may be pointed out to Mr. Gandhi that the Professor has already visited him once and that, while Government do not consider that Government servants should be included in the list of

visitors, they will not object to Professor Trivedi interviewing him again if Mr. Gandhi desires to see him for any particular purpose.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 311 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 18th April 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information and communication to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

This has a reference to the correspondence ending with his letter No. 2881, dated 30th March 1932.

(Sd.).....

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

No. 3420 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 16th April 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your Confidential letter No. 302, dated 14th; instant, I have the honour to send herewith a sum of Rs. 1-11-0, rupee one and eleven annas only.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

Dated 16th April 1932

Dear Raosaheb,

I beg to request you to kindly send per bearer medical report of State prisoner M. K. Gandhi which was sent to you on 30th March 1932, Major Bhandari wants to see it. I will return it tomorrow. Please excuse for the trouble.

Yours obediently,

(Sd.) A. E. KATELY

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 16th April 1932

Dear Mr. Kately,

Reference your D.O. dated 16th April 1932. A copy of the required report is herewith enclosed instead of sending it in original.

Yours,
(Sd.).....

To

Mr. A. E. Kately,
Jailor,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3040
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 18th April 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esqr., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 278, dated the 5 th instant, forwarding for orders two letters intended for Mr. Gandhi (which are herewith returned with their accompaniments), I am directed to inform you that the letter dated the 25th March 1932, (marked 'B'), and its accompaniment should be withheld. As regards the second letter, dated the 1st April 1932 (marked 'A'). I am to say that Government see no objection to its being delivered together with its accompaniment.

I am to enclose for your information translations of the two letters prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.).....,

for Acting Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 317 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE.
Poona, 19th April 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information and necessary action with reference to his confidential letter No. 2990, dated the 4th April 1932.

(Sd.).....,
Lt.-Colonel, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 317 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 19th April 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information and necessary action with reference to his confidential letter No. 2990, dated the 4th April 1932.

(Sd.)
Lt.-Colonel, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

In. No. 3426

Dated 20th April 1932

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 3592 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 22nd April 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

22nd April 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

If you will turn up the file left by Major Martin, you will find I am referring to a matter that has been pending for some time. Kaka Kalelkar you know perhaps as well as I do. He is at present in the Belgaum Central Prison. He was transferred from Visapur to Belgaum. I have been trying to get accurate information about his health and that of three other companions, but beyond getting a little vague information after considerable delay I have been able to make no headway. In the reply Major Martin sent me just before he left, he said that he was asking for the information that I had sought. The information already received by Major Bhandari shows that Kakasaheb is weak. Probably he has lost weight and does not get cow's milk which he used to get here. Therefore if there are no political reasons to the contrary, I suggest his transfer to Yeravda, and if he can be put with me I should bring him up, I hope, to the weight he reached here in 1930 i.e. to 116 lbs.

Of the other three prisoners referred to in my letter to Major Martin of 13th April Narhari Parikh has nose trouble which often causes great pain. His wife Mrs. Parikh writes say that she cannot even get acknowledgement from the Belgaum Prison although she has sent reply paid postcards. She has not heard from her husband at all and naturally she is worrying. I have myself written to Kakasaheb inquiring not only about him but about the other three also, because they are all inmates of the Ashram, but I have no reply from him or them. I would like to have their personal letters if I may. I presume that the object of allowing me to hold correspondence with fellow prisoners was to give me the human satisfaction that I needed in the way of getting information from them as to their well being.

I know that you have only just arrived and must be very busy. I would not have worried you almost immediately on your arrival, but for the pressing necessity of the cases I have brought to your notice.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

D.O. No. 332
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS
Bombay Presidency
Poona, 23rd April 1932

Dear Mr.

Reference your D.O. of 22nd instant.

I have written to Belgaum for detailed particulars regarding the persons in whom you are interested—and hope to be in a position, within the week, to let you have the information you desire.

If circumstances permit, I intend visiting Belgaum as early as possible, and will then be able to give you first hand information.

I can find no reply to Major Martin's letter, so presume an answer was addressed to him by name, and is now chasing him to England. I trust though, that I shall soon have all the information you require.

Yours,
E. E. DOYLE

To

Mr. M. K. Gandhi

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 331 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 23rd April 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Superintendent,
Belgaum Central Prison.

Sir,

I have the honour to request that this office may be supplied, as early as possible with the information tabulated below, in respect of the following prisoners :

1. D. B. Kalelkar.
2. Maniben Patel.
3. Prabhudas Gandhi.

4. Narhari Parikh.

- (a) Present state of health.
- (b) Weight on admission to jail custody.
- (c) Present weight.
- (d) Diet now received. If anything special has been ordered this should be also specified in detail.
- (e) Whether any of them have written to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi. If so, how the letter or letters have been disposed of.

An early report is requested.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

To be withheld.

Translation of letter marked ' B'

KHADI PRATISHTHAN

Sodpur, 25th March 1932

Bapuji,

Your letter received. I am sending along with this the document prepared by a pleader. Signing it please return.

All the papers in connection with what I had told you in Bombay regarding the transfer of the property belonging to Khadi Pratishthan to Charkha Sangh have been ready. They have been sent to Shankerlalji. I am also sending a copy thereof to you for perusal. All these papers have been prepared through Abhiya.

I meet him every Monday morning. The time is fixed for half an hour. One pound of milk continues to be received. Prisoner in Division one is allowed, according to his desire, to receive milk from outside. I have shown your letter to him. He said that he would make effort to increase his weight. His health is at present good. No one stays with him specially. He stays alone in the special ward. He himself makes his own arrangement for food. The Superintendent has thrown on him the responsibility for getting the work of cotton spinning etc. done by 4-5 hundred volunteers who are in the jail. Besides the work of the cowshed is there. Since the work of the cowshed came to him it has much improved. It was not so before. He is preparing a translation of the Uttar Kand of the Ramayan. He will write an introduction. It will take one month more to finish. After this he has said he will prepare a Bengali version of the Teachings of Christ. Besides he

would collect and arrange the Teachings of Buddha. I shall have them printed.

I am glad to hear that Mahadeobhai has come to you. Please write if you are applying any medicine to your right hand.

The paper of the letter I sent was not Swadeshi. It is made in Norway. Ordinarily I am using paper manufactured at the Titaghar Mill here.

In the evening prayers here I am alternately reading Tulsi Ramayan and Gita. I am expounding according to my lights. I am very much afraid in teaching in this manner. I do not know whether I am entitled to do so. I feel that how much I myself know that I should teach others. Bapu, how astonishing are the doings of God that when I am anxious and surprised that while the burden of (becoming) a *guru* is thrown on an insignificant ignorant individual like me. He should remain out of sight and watch the show.

If I do not speak to the male and female—children of the Ashram on religious and spiritual matters they will miss the ideal and the sweetness of the Ashram will disappear. For this reason I have been reading Gita and Ramayan in company with others. But I have no confidence in me. I attach no value to myself thinking myself to be suitable for this work.

Please accept my salutations.

Yours,
HEMPRABHA

P.S.—I shall send later the documents re. Khadi Pratishthan.

HEMPRABHA

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 3761 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 27th April 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

26th April 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

I thank you for your two letters and am expecting early information about my four friends in the Belgaum prison. Since writing to you last, I have received two letters, one from Maniben Patel and one from Kakasaheb Kalelkar. From both the letters I could see that the very information that I wanted was scratched out by the Jail authorities at Belgaum. The letters therefore proved practically valueless for the purpose for which they were intended. And reading between the lines I could also see that Kakasaheb was not at all well.

However as you have kindly promised prompt attention, I am not disturbing the peace of my mind.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 3597 of 1932

BELGAUM CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

26th April 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Belgaum Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your Confidential letter No. 331 of the 23rd instant, I have the honour to furnish herewith the required information.

Name of Prisoner	Present state of health	Weight on admission to Jail custody	Weight on admission to this Prison	Present weight	Diet now received
No. 9417 D. B. Kalelkar	Fair	114	106	104	Loaf Bread 12 oz. Milk 2 lb. Molasses 2 oz. Olive Oil $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
No. 9008 Maniben Patel	Fair	106	98	90	Milk 2 lb. Rice 1 lb.
No. 9416 Prabhudas Gandhi	Fair	118	110	108	Wheat Bread 1 lb. and 2 oz. Dhall and Vegetables Milk 8 oz.
No. 9418 Narhari Parikh	Good	148	138	134	Ordinary diet 'C class.

Prisoners 9417—D. B. Kalelkar and 9008—Maniben Patel received letters from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi which were allowed by the Inspector-General of Prisons, and were given to the prisoners on the 31st March 1932 and they wrote letters in return which were despatched on the 20th April 1932 and 21st April 1932 respectively, after strict censor.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
Superintendent,
Belgaum Central Prison.

No. 356 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS
Bombay Presidency
Poona, 28th April 1932

Dear Mr.

I have just received a report from the Superintendent, Belgaum Central Prison, in reply to my letter. This does not give me all the details I desired, so I have asked for a further and more precise report by return post. All four persons have lost weight since admission to jail custody—but as reasons for this are not stated, I have asked for them to be supplied.

Three of the four are on special diet as shown below :

D. B. Kalelkar	Loaf bread	12 oz.
	Milk	2 lb.
	Molasses	2 oz.
	Olive oil	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Maniben Patel	Milk	2 lb.
	Rice	1 lb.
Prabhudas Gandhi	Wheat bread, dhall and vegetables.	1 lb. 2 oz.
	Milk	8 oz.

I shall communicate with you again on this subject, as soon as I hear from Belgaum Central Prison.

Yours,
E. E. DOYLE

To

Mr. M. K. Gandhi,
Yeravda.

CONFIDENTIAL*Immediate*

No. 355 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 28th April 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Superintendent,
Belgaum Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your Confidential letter No. 3597 of the 26'h April 1932—will you kindly report immediately in detail on the state of health of the four prisoners in whose case a report was called for by this office, and please note for your future guidance that when this office thinks it necessary to call for special reports in the case of any prisoner—laconic remarks as ' Fair ' are not the answer required.

If a prisoners health is not up to par and a special report has been called for, the Medical Officer should report in detail the cause of and all measures taken by him to remedy the disability.

Kindly reply to this office letter No. 331 of the 23rd instant on these lines and without delay.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. 3746 of 1932

BELGAUM CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

29th April 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Belgaum Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your Confidential letter No. 355 of the 28th instant, I have the honour to attach herewith the detail report of the Medical Officer on the health of the four prisoners.

Regarding the Medical Officers remarks about prisoner No. 9417—D. B. Kalelkar going on hunger strike, this prisoner was on hunger strike from the evening of the 8th March to the evening of the 13th March, because he was not allowed to spin a certain amount of cotton daily on his Charkha, the matter was referred to the Inspector-General of Prisons, and he was later permitted to do so. I regret full details of health of the four prisoners were not given in detail in my former letter, and this is duly noted.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

Superintendent,

Belgaum Central Prison.

From

The Medical Officer,
Belgaum Central Prison ;

To

The Superintendent,
Belgaum Central Prison.

Sir,

I have the honour to give the following report regarding the health of the four prisoners required by the Inspector-General of Prisons in his No. 355 of 1932, dated 28th April 1932 :

Convict No. 9417—D. B. Kalelkar

The prisoner's weight on admission to the Jail custody was 114 lbs. on 11th February 1932 but when he was admitted to the Belgaum Central Prison on 8th March 1932, the weight was 106 lbs. His present weight is 104 lbs. the physical equivalent being 126 lbs. No change of ration in lieu or as extra was made by the other Prisoners where he lost 8 lb. Soon after his admission the prisoner went on hunger strike for full one week and though he was advised to give up the hunger strike in the interest of his own health he refused to do it.

The prisoner is said to have suffered from tuberculosis of the lungs, but so far as I have observed there are no signs of the active tuberculosis except harsh breath sounds. The prisoner complains only of general weakness. He is not a well-built man and was under weight even at the time of his conviction. He is getting daily :

Loaf bread	12 oz.
Milk	2 lb.
Goor	2 oz.
Olive oil	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

Convict No. 9416—Prabhudas Gandhi

The prisoner's weight on admission to Jail custody was 118 lbs. on 11th February 1932, but when he was admitted to Belgaum Central Prison on 8th March 1932 his weight was 110 lbs. His present weight is 108 lbs. the physical equivalent being 115 lbs. No change of ration was made in the other prisons though he lost 8 lbs. before his arrival to this Jail.

On 9th March 1932 he was admitted to the Prison Hospital for fever and cough and was discharged cured on 12th March 1932—it was only an attack of Malaria. On 22nd March 1932 he was given wheat—ration as his weight was 108 lbs.

The prisoner is said to have suffered from tuberculosis of the lungs, but at present there are no active signs of tuberculosis except harsh breath sounds. He was given 8 oz of milk as extra as he complained of little general weakness. There is no special complaint about him except slight anaemia for which he is treated.

He is getting daily—

Wheat ration	1 lb	2 oz
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Dhall and vegetables	Do.	do.
----------------------	-----	-----

Milk 8 oz as extra.

Convict No. 9008—Maniben Patel

The prisoner's weight on admission to Jail custody was 106 lbs. on 17th January 1932, but when she was admitted to the Belgaum Central Prison on 3rd February 1932 her weight was 99 lbs. Her present weight is 90 lbs. the physical equivalent being 96 lbs. She had lost 7 lbs. before admission to this Jail but no change of ration was made in the other Jails. Soon after her admission she could not eat dhall and vegetables with chillies and so she was given these without chillies. As she suffered from lumbago she was given SAEICYLATES WITH AKALIES and an extra blanket as well.

On 24th February 1932 she was given 2 lbs. of milk in lieu of her vegetables and Dhall as she was still getting attacks of indigestion. Whenever she gets constipation it is relieved with laxatives. She has been given rice diet in lieu of Jowari and Bajri on 25th April 1932 as she complained of passing one or two drops of blood in stools (due to constipation).

Beyond indigestion, constipation and lumbago she has no complaints. She is a bit neurotic and seems to unnecessarily worry about all other female prisoners. She gets daily—

Milk	2 lbs.
------	--------

Rice	1 lb.
------	-------

Convict No. 9418—N. D. Parikh

The prisoner's weight on admission to Jail custody was 148 lb on 11th February 1932, but when he was admitted to the Belgaum Central Prison on 8th March 1932 his weight was 138 lb. His present weight is 134 lb. There has been no complaint regarding his health since his admission. He gets ordinary ' C ' class diet.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) A. R. LODHI,

Medical Officer,

Belgaum Central Prison.

Dated 29th April 1932

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 3273 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, April 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Civil Surgeon,
Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to request you to please send a Nose Specialist to see State prisoner V. J. Patel who is suffering from some nose trouble (Ch Rhmitis).

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

D.O. No. 333

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS

Bombay Presidency

Poona, 23rd April 1932

Dear Mr.

Reference your D. O. of 21st instant.

I have submitted to Government the further list of non-political associates whom you may desire to see—and have also asked for a decision on your

suggestion that the Superintendent be permitted to decide whether others outside the list may visit you or no.

I shall communicate to you the orders of Government as soon as they are received.

Yours,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

To

Mr. M. K. Gandhi

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 334 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 23rd April 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward for the orders of Government a further list of non-political associates submitted by M. K. Gandhi—also copies of the Superintendent's covering letter and a copy of my reply to State prisoner Gandhi.

I would recommend for the consideration of Government that their original orders stand and that the suitability or otherwise of so called " non-political associates " to visit him should be decided by Government. No inconvenience is likely to be caused if application to see any particular person is made in time.

The Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, cannot be expected to have the same knowledge at his disposal as is the case with Government—and therefore should not be required to decide this point.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Descriptive list of Non-Political Associates

1. Indira Nehru Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's daughter, 14 years old and studying in Mr. Vakil's School in Poona.
2. Jehangir Vakil and his wife. Educationist conducting a model school in Poona where Indira Nehru is studying.
3. Hemprabha Devi Wife of Babu Satishchandra Das Gupta purely devoted to Khadi work at Sodpur (Bengal).
4. Raihana Tyebji Daughter of Mr. Abbas Tyebji, a permanent invalid.
5. Mr. Shah Merchant residing in Bombay given to astronomical pursuits.
6. Damodardas Kanji Private gentleman in Bombay holding intimate contact
7. Karamchand Chunilal Share broker in Bombay.
8. Hirewanti Mansukhlal Widow of the late Mr. Mansukhlal Chunilal, a philanthropist.
9. Nargis Captain An invalid, widow of the late Mr. Captain of the Indian Postal Service.
10. Ramaben Student of Gujarat Vidyapith, daughter of Seth Ranchhodlal Amritlal of Ahmedabad.
11. Prabhashankar Parekh Private gentleman of Rajkot, father . of an Ashram girl.
12. Byram Khambatta and Tehmina Khambatta. An osteologist of Bombay and his wife.
13. Manju Keshu Mashru- Nices of a member of the Ashram and in charge of a vala. charitable dispensary.
14. Shushilakumari Student Medical College, Delhi, sister of Sjt. Pyarelal of the Ashram.
15. Shushilakumari School Mistress, Girls' School, Rajkot.
16. Dinkar Mehta An invalid student of the Vidyapith under treatment of Dr. Mehta.
17. Puratan Buch An invalid student of the Vidyapith.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

21st April 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

Major Bhandari has read to me the reply received from Government to my letter of the 13th April addressed to Major Martin regarding, among other things, an illustrative list I had submitted of non-political associates who might visit me. In continuance of that correspondence I now submit

as full a list of names of non-political associates as I can think of. I have given a brief description of the persons mentioned in the list. It is by no means an exhaustive list. On the contrary I have confined myself to those whom I may wish to see in the near future. These are in no sense political people. I therefore suggest that when I want to see others outside the list, *the Superintendent may be permitted to decide whether they come within the prescribed limits or not*. For I find that each case not mentioned in the list has to be submitted to Government, the delay caused in receiving the reply is likely to defeat the very object of my application.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 3590 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 22nd April 1932

From

Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Central Prison,
Yeravda ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to para. 3 of letter No. S.D. 1560, dated 3rd March 1932, from the Secretary to Government, Home Department, Bombay, forwarded under your endorsement No. 191, dated 4th March 1932, I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

2. In this letter, I wish to draw your attention to a portion underlined in red by me. As my knowledge about persons applying for interview may be quite superficial, or entirely wanting, I suggest that discretion should rest with a person who is more likely to know all about them.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3237
HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)
Bombay, 28th April 1932

Dear Major Bhandari,

In forwarding for delivery to Mr. Gandhi the accompanying letter and its enclosure from Mr. Percy Bartlett (General Secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, London), which were received through the Government of India, I am desirous to request that, should Mr. Gandhi address a reply to Mr. Bartlett, it may be submitted to Government.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 3762 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 27th April 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Mr. K. Natarajan, for favour of disposal.

There is nothing objectionable in the letter but it is feared that the contents may be published in the paper and hence I think it advisable to send it through you.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 357 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 28th April 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to Mr. K. Natarajan another word for publicity a fatwa from the temple at Yeravda.

I have the honour to be.

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3237

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Bombay, 28th April 1932

Dear Major Bhandari,

In forwarding for delivery to Mr. Gandhi, the accompanying letter and its enclosures from Mr. Percy Bartlett (General Secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, London), which were received through the Government of India, I am desirous to request that, should Mr. Gandhi address a reply to Mr. Bartlett it may be submitted to Government.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES

To

Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 365 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS

Bombay Presidency

Poona, May 1932

Dear Mr.

I have received the further information I required and am now in a position to assure you that you need have no cause for worry in respect of any of the persons you named in your letter to me.

D. B. Kalelkar's previous medical history is known to the Medical Officer at Belgaum, who is watching his health carefully and has prescribed treatment and diet as is necessary.

P. Gandhi was in hospital from 9th March 1932 to 12th March 1932 with malaria, which has left him slightly anaemic—but he is being treated for this—and is doing well.

Maniben Patel suffered occasionally from lumbago—for which she was treated and has obtained relief. Also is habitually constipated. This is treated as necessary with laxatives and change of diet.

N. D. Parikh is reported as being quite fit in spite of a small loss in weight.

I trust this will relieve your mind.

Yours,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

To

Mr. M. K. Gandhi,
Yeravda.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3302

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 2nd May 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esqr., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 357, dated the 28th April 1932, I am directed to return herewith the letter from Mr. Gandhi to Mr. K. Natarajan, and to state that Government see no objection to its being allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 371 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 3rd May 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information with reference to his confidential letter No. 3762, dated 27th April 1932.

The letter in question is herewith returned for further disposal.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Colonel, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 3930 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 2nd May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to Sir Samuel Hoare and Lord Sankey for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

KHADI PRATISHTHAN

Full Khaddar Charka Yarn, Cotton-Seeds Charka

Pinjan and other accessories.

P. O. Sodpore, 24 Parganas (Near Calcutta). In reply please quote No. 1022/S. The 2nd May 1932.

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Jail, Poona City.

Dear Sir,

We are sending per separate Book Post two copies of the Bengali reports of relief work done at the flooded area of Bengal for forwarding them to Gandhiji. Sjt. Mahadeo Desai, Gandhiji's Secretary, knows Bengali well and he will read the reports to Gandhiji. There a nothing political in the reports.

Yours faithfully,
(Sd) H. P. DEVI,
Secretary,
Khadi Pratishthan.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4062 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 6th May 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Inspector-General of Prisons, for favour of orders.
The two copies of the Bengali report accompany.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 370 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 3rd May 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to Sir Samuel Hoare and Lord Sankey.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Colonel, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4003 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 4th May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

4th May 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

I thank you for your prompt reply of 2nd inst. in connection with my four friends and co-workers in the Belgaum Central Prison. I thought that you would give me their weights. I would still like to have them for additional satisfaction.

I am not free from anxiety yet about Kaka Kalelkar. He often suffers from pain in the spine. From the diet scale allowed to him I miss butter altogether. You may remember that he had 4 oz of butter allowed to him here in addition to milk, bread and vegetables, and I know that he was able to take all that butter without suffering any harm and he was able to put on weight and feel energy coming to him, whereas when he was received here he felt weak and could with difficulty take regular exercise. I would therefore like to know what his weight is now and whether he suffers from any pain in the spine. The letter he was permitted to write to me distinctly states that he had that pain at the time of writing i.e. on 13th April last.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4030 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 5th May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Mr. Percy Bartlett for favour of disposal.

M. K. Gandhi received a letter from Mr. Bartlett through Government of Bombay as per D.O. No. S.D. 3237, Home Department (Special), dated 28th April 1932, to which this is a reply.

A copy of the above quoted letter is sent herewith.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 374 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 5th May 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Superintendent,
Belgaum Central Prison.

Sir,

In continuation of this office confidential letter No. 355, dated 28th April 1932, I am informed by State prisoner Gandhi that in a letter received by him on the 13 th April from prisoner D. B. Kalelkar—the latter informed him that he was suffering from " pain in the spine ". Will you please inform me in detail, if this is true and if so, what is the cause of the pain and what treatment is being prescribed.

2. Does this prisoner receive any butter as an extra ? If so, what quantity ?

3. Please let me have the latest weights of the four prisoners previously referred to in my above letter and state definitely date of weighing.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Colonel, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4030 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 5th May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Mr. Percy Bartlett for favour of disposal.

M. K. Gandhi received a letter from Mr. Bartlett through Government of Bombay as per D.O. No. S.D. 3237, Home Department (Special)—dated 28th April 1932, to which this is a reply.

A copy of the above quoted letter is sent herewith.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy of Letter to Percy Bartlett.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

4th May 1932

Dear Friend,

I received your letter only last Saturday with the Poet's draft appeal. I do not know that you expect me, to say anything now. But this I can say that I should yield to none in my desire for conciliation and peace. You may therefore depend on my doing nothing that will prevent them. Consistently with national honour I would do everything that would promote conciliation and peace. More I may not say from behind the Prison wall.

I am glad you and the other friends were able to visit India and hope that you were none to worse for its climate.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 380 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 6th May 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Mr. Percy Bartlett as directed in Government, Home Department, D.O. No. S.D. 3237, dated the 28th April 1932, to Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S., Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 1308 of 1932

TEMPORARY PRISON OFFICE

Visapur, 6th May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Visapur Temporary Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona,

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter written by prisoner Fulchand Bapuji, and addressed to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.).....,
Superintendent,
Visapur Temporary Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 405 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 14th May 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments.

The letter together with its translation into English is enclosed herewith for further disposal.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Colonel, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return retaining the accompaniments.

No. 4061 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 6th May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and enquire whether the same may be handed over to him.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4088 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 6th May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter written in Bengali received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 381 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 7th May 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, CLE., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, two copies of Bengali reports of relief work done at the floods area of Bengal received by the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, on behalf of State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

No. 382 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 7th May 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, a letter received by the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, on behalf of State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4095 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 7th May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

7th May 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

I wish to bring to your notice a matter that has reached the point of exasperation. Over two months ago Sardar Vallabhbhai wrote two letters, one to his son at Bombay, and one to Mr. G. V. Mavlankar at Ahmedabad, both of which were of a business type. They were duly authorised, but never reached the addressees. On March 26th Sjt. Mahadev Desai wrote his monthly letter to his wife at the Ashram at Sabarmati. The letter never reached her. On the 28th ultimo I wrote, by permission, a letter addressed to the Ashram and meant for an erring boy of mine. It was a most important letter in answer to his. The letter was not delivered at the Ashram, though subsequent letters were delivered. Almost invariably the Ashram post reaches the Ashram two or three days after the due day of delivery. I infer from this that the letters are delayed, where they are not withheld entirely, by some authority. I know that correspondence of civil resistors is under strict censorship. I have nothing to say against it. But the correspondence sent from a prison, duly franked by prison authorities would, I should imagine, be free from further censorship and consequent delay or danger of being withheld altogether. I do not write letters uselessly and hope I am meticulous about observing the terms under which I am permitted to write these letters. If they require a double censorship, it may be well to let us know. If they are withheld even after being passed by prison authorities, I think it is due to us that we should know at least the fact of detention. The letter that I sent to my son was designed to affect the future course of his conduct and it has attached to it an original letter which my son had sent for my inspection and which he desired should be returned to him. I have no desire whatsoever to write a single line that I would not like any Government official to see. But I do feel hurt when even letters sent by prisoners that are held to be unobjectionable by prison authorities are delayed or intercepted in course of transmission.

I should therefore thank you if you would kindly inquire of proper authorities as to the fact of the letters in question. I should be glad if it were discovered that my suspicions were groundless and that there had been no interference with this correspondence, and that the delay had been accidental and that the missing letters had been found and delivered to the addressees.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

7th May 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

I observed from Kaka Kalelkar's letter to me that though he and Sjts. Narahari Parikh and Prabhudas Gandhi were put together at Visapur, they were separated on being admitted to the Belgaum Central Prison. They are all inmates of the Ashram. Prabhudas Gandhi was Kaka Kalelkar's pupil and Narahari Parikh his assistant and colleague. I do not know that there was any reason for separating them from one another. If there was none, you will perhaps agree that in the present state of the health of both Kaka and Prabhudas Gandhi, of all the three are together they can be mutually helpful.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4063 of 1932
BELGAUM CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
8th May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Belgaum Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your confidential letter No. 374 of the 5th instant, I have the honour to send herewith the Medical Officers report. Regarding the "pain in the spine"—mentioned by prisoner No. 9417—D. B. Kalelkar in his letter, the censoring as given by the Junior Jailor who has a fair knowledge of Gujarathi, stated the prisoner mentioned he was occasionally getting pains in the back, the prisoner never complained of this to me but said at times that he was not feeling strong. This morning on my round I asked him if he was all right as I had changed his cell, and he replied he was feeling much better and stronger. Butter was mentioned by the Medical Officer as an extra to be given him but the prisoner stated that he could only eat cows butter. Cows milk and cows ghee which are usually obtainable are given to him.

Female prisoner No. 9008—Maniben Patel is shortly due for release on the 14th of this month.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.),

Superintendent,
Belgaum Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

From

The Medical Officer,
Belgaum Central Prison ;

To

The Superintendent,
Belgaum Central Prison.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following detailed report as asked for by the Inspector-General of Prisons in this confidential letter No. 374 of 1932, dated 5th May 1932 :

C. No. 9417 D. B. Kalelkar—Never complained of any " pain in the spine " to the I. M. S. Officer who goes on his daily morning round to his yard nor to me whenever I visited his yard till the 30th April 1932 when on being *particularly asked about it* he said that there was slight pain in his spine which has appeared lately. He said that he had this pain in 1923 but it had disappeared and of late only he finds that it is reappearing.

On examination of the Spine I found that there was no deformity of the Spine, nor was the pain increased by " jarring of the Spine but that there was tenderness of the 12th Thoracic vertebra on *deep pressure*.

He was advised to take rest by lying down as much as possible but as he has to fulfil his vow of spinning daily a particular number of yards of thread, he has to sit up. After great persuasion he has agreed to lessen his daily spinning and take the following mixture :

Calin Hypophosphas—gr. V.

Ferriet Quinine citrus—gr. V.

Liquor Arsemcalis—m. III.

Liquor Strychnine—m. II.

Aqua—ad.

One dose twice a day after meals.

His last weight was taken on 1st May 1932 and it was detected that his weight was 103 lbs. i.e. 1 lb below his former weight on 17th April 1932.

From 4th May 1932 he has been given 3 oz of ghee as *extra* and the weight was 103 lbs. i.e. 1 lb below his former weight on 17th April 1932.

2 lbs. milk.

3 oz of ghee.

1 oz olive oil.

2 oz goor.

12 oz loaf.

As for the cause of the pain in the spine. I think it is due to localized periostites which looking to the gradual but steady loss of weight *may be* of tuberculous origin but there are no other—definite signs of tuberculous disease of the spine.

In the form of treatment the above diet rich in fats, the bitter tonics with calcium and ample rest suggested should prove beneficial to his health.

In this connection, I may venture to mention certain peculiarities of the prisoner concerned as follows :

(1) He is a man with various religious scrapples and vowes and would rather like to sacrifice his health than his religion. Once this week he suffered from slight inflammation of the gums and was presented a gargle and a gum paint but he did not want the paint as it would contain glycerine which is an animal product.

(2) Being afraid that some drugs or medicines containing animal products may be prescribed for him he rarely expresses his bodily complaints to the medical staff e.g. when he was particularly asked about it.

(3) He wants milk and butter or ghee of a particular animal only, which is not so very easy to obtain all the places.

C. No. 9416, Prabhudas Gandhi—Weighed 110 lbs. on 1st May 1932 i.e. the pain in spine he mentioned it otherwise he was not inclined to talk, he put on 2 lbs. weight compared to his former weight of 108 lbs. on 17th April 1932.

C. No. 9008, Maniben Patel—Weighed 89 lbs. on 1st May 1932 i.e. she lost 1 lb. weight compared to her former weight of 90 lbs. on 17th April 1932. Her diet was changed and she is now getting :

2 lbs. milk.

1 lb loaf bread.

2 oz butter extra.

2 oz sugar extra.

C. No. 9418, N. D. Parikh—Weighed 129 lbs. on 1st May 1932 i.e. he lost 5 lbs. of weight compared to his former weight of 134 lbs. on 17th April 1932. He has no particular complaint and is quite strong.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) A. R. LODHI,

Medical Officer.

Dated 7th May 1932

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3446
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 9th May 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 334, dated the 23rd April 1932, forwarding for orders a list of names submitted by Mr. Gandhi of persons

1. Indira Nehru.
2. Jehangir Vakil, and
3. His wife.
4. Hemprabha Devi.
5. Raihana Tyebji.
6. Hirawanti Mansukhlal.
7. Ramaben, daughter of Seth Ranchhodlal Amritlal.
8. Prabhashankar Parekh.
9. Byram Khambatta, and
10. His wife Tehmina Khambatta.
11. Manju Keshu Mashruvala.
12. Shushilakumari, sister of Pyarelal.
13. Shushilakumari, school mistress of Rajkot.
14. Dinkar Mehta.
15. Puratan Buch.

whom he may wish to see,
I am directed to inform
you that Government
have no objection to the
marginally named 15 per-
sons visiting Mr, Gandhi,
and to add that orders
regarding the remaining
four persons, viz. Messrs.
Hiralal Shah, Damodar-
das Kanji, Karamchand
Chunilal and Mrs. Nargis

Captain, will be communicated to you later.

2. With regard to paragraph 2 of your letter, I am to request that Mr. Gandhi may be informed that Government regret that they are unable to make any alteration in the existing orders according to which all names of non-political personal friends from outside the Ashram have to be submitted to them for approval.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 384 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 9th May 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Oriental Translator to Government,
Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a Gujarathi letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi confined in the Yeravda Central Prison for favour of returning the same with its translation into English as usual.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Colonel, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 386 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 9th May 1932

MEMORANDUM

Reference attached letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi. Will you kindly ascertain and let this office know—

1. When exactly the letters mentioned were written.
2. When they left the Jail Office—
 - (a) for post.
 - (b) for further disposal either by this office or Secretary to Government.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Colonel, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 380 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 10th May 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of communicating Government orders to Mr. Gandhi.

This has a reference to his confidential letter No. 3590, dated 22nd April 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Colonel, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 388 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 10th May 1932

To

To Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, a letter written in Bengali received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

All Bengali letters received for or written by the Bengali prisoners at present confined to the Jails of this Presidency are usually being sent to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, I.B., C.I.D., Bengal, Calcutta, for censor.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

No. 396 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS
Bombay Presidency
Poona, 11th May 1932

Dear Mr.

Reference your letter of the 4th instant.

I called for a special report on D. B. Kalelkar, with reference to his statement that he had pain in the spine—this I find was never mentioned to the Medical Officer, who however has carefully examined him and can find no lesion. He has however insisted on Kalelkar resting and has increased his olive oil to one ounce and has added three ounces of ghee to his diet. His weight on the 1st May was 103 lb.

The weights of the other three are as under :

P.Gandhi	110 lbs. on 1st May 1932.
Maniben Patel	89 lbs. on 1st May 1932.
N. D. Parekh	129 lbs. on 1st May 1932.

Trusting this will help to dispel any lasting fears of doubts you may have may had—I can assure you that the health of all four is being very carefully watched and that there is no reason why you should be anxious.

Yours,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

To

Mr. M. K. Gandhi,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4172 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 11th May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your Memo. No. 386, dated 9th May 1932, I have the honour to state as follows :

State prisoner M. K. Gandhi wrote the letter to his son at the Ashram at Sabarmati on 28th April 1932. It left the Jail office on the same day. This letter was posted and not sent through your office or Secretary to Government.

State prisoner Vallabhbhai wrote two letters some two months back but exact date is not known.

'B' class prisoner Mahadeo Desai wrote a letter to his wife on 26th April 1932. This letter was posted direct to the addressee on the same day or the next day.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3516
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 13th May 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, CLE., I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the two copies of a publication and a letter in Bengali intended for Mr. Gandhi which were received with your letter Nos. 381 and 388, dated the 7th and 10th May 1932, respectively. I am directed to state that such communications in Bengali addressed to Mr. Gandhi may, as in the case of similar correspondence of other prisoners, be forwarded for examination to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Intelligence Branch, C.I.D., Bengal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.).....,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 406 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 16th May 1932

To

The Deputy Inspector-General of Police,
Intelligence Branch, C.I.D., Bengal,
13, Lord Sinha Road, Calcutta.

Copy together with two copies of a publication and a letter in Bengali forwarded with compliments for favour of censor and early return.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Submitted with reference to Secretary's queries in the margin of P. I. ante.

2. It is not known who the writer of the letter is but apparently he is engaged in Khadi propaganda work in Bengal, it will be observed from the copy of his previous letter that he is acquainted with Hemprabha Devi, the Secretary of the Sodpur Khadi Pratishthan. He seems also to have a hand in the flood relief work being done by the Sankat Tran Samiti.

3. His previous letter dated 3rd March 1932 was not submitted to Government for orders. Perhaps it was withheld by the jail authorities, though this is unlikely as there appears to be nothing objectionable in it and moreover if it had been held up the I. G. of Prisons, would presumably have mentioned the fact now. If the letter has not reached Mr. Gandhi, it probably went astray in the post. The point may, however, be cleared up by an unofficial reference to the I. G. of Prisons if the previous letter was not withheld he may be informed that Government see no objection in the present letter and its enclosure being delivered to Mr. Gandhi.

(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL

U.O.R. to I. G. of Prisons.

No. S.D. 3492, dated 11th May 1932.

Below Unofficial Reference No. S.D. 3492, dated 11th May 1932, from Government in the Home Department, Bombay.

No. 404 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 13th May 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of report,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. 4285 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 14th May 1932

Returned with compliments.

The previous letter does not seem to have been received in this office. The accompaniments have been retained and the letter will be delivered to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 410 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 16th May 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Forwarded with compliments.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4194 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated, 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

12th May 1932

Dear Colonel Doyle,

I am deeply grateful to you for the prompt reply you have sent in respect of my inquiry contained in my letter of the 4th instant. The addition of three ounces of ghee to Kaka Kalelkar's diet certainly meets, if I may dare to say so, the physical needs of his constitution. The assurances contained in your letter to relieve me of considerable anxiety on the score of these friends of mine.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL*Immediate*

No. 398 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 12th May 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to request that Government will kindly inform me whether Miss Slade, at present an ' A ' class prisoner and who is due for release on or about the 16th May 1932 should be permitted to interview State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C/32 of 1932

ORIENTAL TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE

Secretariat, Bombay, 12th May 1932

From

J. E. Sanjana, Esquire, B.A.,
Ag. Oriental Translator to Government;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith the Gujarathi letter received with your letter No. 384 of the 9th instant, together with its translation in English.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) J. E. SANJANA,

Ag. Oriental Translator to Government.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4198 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 12th May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to state that State prisoner Vallabhbhai Patel has requested to be allowed to see Mr. Haribhai Amin from Broach. This man is related to State prisoner Vallabhbhai's son (his uncle-in-law). His son has lost his wife recently, leaving behind a child five or six-year old. State prisoner Vallabhbhai Patel wishes to discuss the arrangements for looking after his grandson with Mr. Haribhai Amin.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 401 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 13th May 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of orders.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 402 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 13th May 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, CLE., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward for favour of any action you may deem necessary a copy of letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and copies of correspondence relative thereto.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. 4352 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

Poona, 16th May 1932

Returned with compliments retaining the accompaniments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

TELEGRAM

From

Bombay Special S. D., Bombay ;

To

Prisons, Poona.

Bombay, 16th May 1932

Your confidential letter 398, May 12th permission should not be granted letter posted today.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 414 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 17th May 1932

Copy forwarded with compliments for information with reference to his letter No. 4351, dated 16th May 1932.

(Sd.),

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

for Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4351 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 16th May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that I received intimation that Miss Slade is going to visit State prisoner M. K. Gandhi along with other inmates from the Ashram on Wednesday the 18th. I have therefore to request you to please inform me whether she should be allowed to interview him.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3575

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 16th May 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 398, dated the 12th May 1932, I am directed by the Governor in Council to inform you that Miss Slade should not be permitted to interview Mr. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 415 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 18th May 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information in continuation of this office confidential No. 414, dated 17th May 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

TELEGRAM

From

Prisons, Poona ;

To

Bombay Home, Bombay.

State Ordinary
Poona, 16th May 1932

7423 My Confidential 398 kindly issue orders immediately.

Prisons,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

Sir,

I received the attached telegram just now at 8-30 p.m. If I remember rightly it has reference to an interview of Miss Slade (Miraben) with M. K. Gandhi letter posted by Government if received by tomorrow's morning post will be sent to you for orders and Major Bhandari, I.M.S. will have to be informed accordingly.

Yours obediently,
(Sd.) S. R. CHAUBAL

Poona City, 16th May 1932

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

From

Bombay;

To

Prisons, Poona.

Your confidential letter 398 May 12th Permission should not be granted letter posted today.

Bombay Special S. D.

3581 Inform Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison of Government orders.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE
17th May 1932.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 419 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 19th May 1932

MEMORANDUM

Reference your confidential letter No. 4457, dated 19th May 1932—

The *letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the undersigned is being forwarded to the Secretary to Government, Home Department, Bombay, for orders.

*Re. Government order refusing grant of interview to Miss Slade.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Colonel, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4457 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 19th May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Below letter dated 19th May 1932, from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, to the Inspector-General of Prison, Poona.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 420 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 19th May 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of orders.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Colonel, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

19th May 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

Major Bhandari told me today that he was instructed to prohibit Shrimati Mirabai (Slade) from seeing me, should she desire to do so. As it so happened, she having been discharged from Arthur Road Jail yesterday came today to see me. It would have been courteous if she had been previously informed by Government that she would not be allowed to see me.

But that is perhaps a small matter. What is of the highest concern for me is that of all the Ashram people Mirabai should be singled out for the prohibition, whereas hitherto she has never been prohibited from seeing me. I have always been under an impression, and have been grateful, that the Government had tacitly recognised not merely the fact of Mirabai being an inmate of the Ashram, but being nearer to me than an Ashram inmate, if such a thing was possible. Her connection with me is infinitely more than political. I may mention that she is under strict instructions not to take an active part in the present political movement and not deliberately to seek imprisonment. Her activity has been confined purely to conduct constructive Khadi movement and reporting to friends West the present political happenings. If these be a disqualification, there is hardly a person whom I should be able to see.

If therefore I cannot see Mirabai, I do not know how far I would be justified in availing myself of the permission to receive other visitors. Needless to say that I do not discuss politics with Mirabai or any other visitor, nor have I the slightest desire, even if it was possible for me to direct the movement from within prison walls. All interviews take place in the presence of the Superintendent. If therefore the Government have any regard for my feelings or Mirabai's. I hope that they will reconsider their decision and permit her to visit me as before.

Will you kindly place this letter before the Government and request an early decision ?

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3650
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 20th May 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. S.D. 3446, dated the 9th instant, I am directed to state that Mr. Gandhi may be informed that Government have no objection to Messrs. Hiralal Shah and Damodardas Kanji visiting him, but that they regret are unable to accord similar permission in the case of Mr. Karamchand Chunilal and Mrs. Nargis Captain.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 421 of 1932
21st May 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of communicating Government orders to Mr. M. K. Gandhi in continuation of this office Confidential No. 390, dated 10th May 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Inspector-General of Prisons.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3678

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 21st May 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 402, dated the 13th May 1932, regarding Mr. Gandhi's complaint that two letters written by Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel, one by Mr. Mahadeo Desai and one by himself did not reach the addressees, I am directed by the Governor in Council to inform you that inquiries are being made from the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, and the District Magistrate, Ahmedabad, regarding the missing letters. Meanwhile I am to suggest that you should inform Mr. Gandhi that all the letters referred to were duly posted and no cause for their non-delivery is known but that inquiries are being made to see if any of them can be traced.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 422 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 23rd May 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments with a request to communicate the contents to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE
C. I. Department, Intelligence Branch
No. 13203
341-21
Dated 24th May 1932

From

C. E. S. Fairweather, Esqr., I.P., M.A.,
Deputy Inspector-General of Police,
Intelligence Branch ;

To

E. A. O. Perkin, Esqr., I.P.,
Special Assistant to the D.I.G., C.I.D.,
Bihar and Orissa, S. B.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose in original a letter written in Uriya intended for Mr. Gandhi, which has been received for censor and return from the Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

I am to request you kindly to let me have a translation of the letter which may kindly be returned to this office with your reply.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) N. MAZUMDAR,

for Deputy Inspector-General of Police, I. B.

No. 13204, dated 24th May 1932

Copy forwarded to the Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, with reference to his Memo. No. 406, dated 16th May 1932.

(Sd.) N. MAZUMDAR,
for Deputy Inspector-General of Police.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 431 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 25th May 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Dr. Satya Charan Law.

A circular letter received by State prisoner Gandhi in this connection is also sent herewith for information and return.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4664 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 25th May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Dr. Satya Charan Law for favour of disposal. A Circular letter received by prisoner Gandhi in this connection is also sent herewith for information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant.
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3838
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 27th May 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Deputy Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 401, dated the 13th instant, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel being allowed to see Mr. Haribhai Amin of Broach.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,

Deputy Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 438 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE Poona,
28th May 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information and guidance with reference to his Confidential letter No. 4198, dated 12th May 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4787 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated, 28th May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Father Elwin, for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 444 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 30th May 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, CLE., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Father Elwin.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3894

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 30th May 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 431, dated the 25th May 1932, I am directed to return herewith the letter from Mr. Gandhi to Dr. Satya Charan Law of Calcutta, and to state that Government see no objection to its being allowed to go on.

2. The printed circular letter forwarded with your letter is also herewith returned.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 4826 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 31st May 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Mr. Tijaray at Vienna, Austria, for favour of disposal. The letter received by Gandhi from the above named person accompanies. The prisoner requests that the letter may please be sent by Air Mail if possible.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 445 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 31st May 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

My address—

A. R. Tijaray,
Principal, Tilak Vidyalyaya, Nagpur,
C/o Persion Pfeffer,
Wilhelm Exnergasse 28,
Wien IX Austria.

Vienna (Austria)

Tuesday the 17th May 1932

By Air Mail

Revered Mahatmaji,

On the eve of my departure to Vienna from Bombay on 10th March I tried to visit you but as I could not succeed in that I wrote you a letter on

7th March on Yeravda Jail address and requested therein to send me an introductory letter to the eye surgeon at Vienna. I do not know whether you got that letter or not. You are aware about the condition of my eyes. Last jail incarceration at Rajpur told very badly on my eyes and as my eyes have gone from bad to worst I was required to hurry up at Vienna as I almost exhausted all the leading eye specialists in India. Here every thing is expensive. As my institution has been locked up and all my workers in jail I am rather handicapped. I hope you will do me the favour of sending an introductory letter to Professor Dr. Meller and Lindner on my address, telling to them my pecuniary circumstances and importance of helping a public man who is losing his eye sight for ever if not properly attended. I have been operated for Cataract in my right eye until now four times by Professor Dr. M. Sachs but as the vitrious fluid used to come out every time. They could not take away Cataract and hence they could not treat for opacities and detachment of Retina. President Vithalbhai Patel is improving in his health. Hoping to get a reply from you at your earliest convenience by Air Mail I come to close.

I am,

Yours,

Sufferer in your cause,

(Sd.) A. R. TIJARAY

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3946

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 2nd June 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 420, dated the 19th May 1932, regarding Mr. Gandhi's request that Government would reconsider their decision and permit Miss Slade to interview him, I am directed to request you to inform Mr. Gandhi that the information in the possession of Government shows that Miss Slade, prior to her arrest, was actively engaged in furtherance of the civil disobedience movement, and as such she cannot be

regarded as coming within the category of " non-political inmates of the Sabarmati Ashram ".

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 454 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 4th June 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of communicating Government orders to Mr. Gandhi.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.

Copy of a confidential letter from the Accountant General, Bombay, No. D.A.I. 395, dated the 2nd June 1932.

Subject.—Allowances to State prisoners.

I have the honour to invite a reference to Government Resolution, Home Department (Political), Nos. S.D. 117 and 118, dated the 7th January 1932, in which an allowance of Rs. 100 per month is sanctioned for the maintenance of Mr. V. J. Patel and Mr. M. K. Gandhi and in which it is directed that the allowance should be remitted to the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison. In this connection I would state that the Superintendent has been authorised to draw the amounts monthly from the Poona Treasury. He does not, however, draw the full sanctioned amounts monthly but as and when the funds already in his hands are exhausted. It appears that although a fixed allowance is sanctioned for the maintenance of the prisoners it is not a personal payment to them but that expenditure up to the limit of Rs. 100 is to be incurred by the Superintendent in the maintenance of each prisoner. The expenditure appears to be of a contingent nature and I would enquire whether it is the intention of Government that the Superintendent should submit a detailed contingent bill accounting for the amounts drawn by him.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. D.A.I. 395

Bombay, the 2nd June 1932

From

The Accountant General,
Bombay ;

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.*Subject.*—Allowances to State prisoners.

Sir,

I have the honour to invite a reference to Government Resolution, Home Department (Political), Nos. S.D. 117 and 118, dated the 7th January 1932, in which an allowance of Rs. 100 per month is sanctioned for the maintenance of Mr. V. J. Patel and Mr. M. K. Gandhi and in which it is directed that the allowance should be remitted to the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison. In this connection I would state that the Superintendent has been authorised to draw the amounts monthly from the Poona Treasury. He does not, however, draw the full sanctioned amounts monthly but as and when the funds already in his hands are exhausted. It appears that although a fixed allowance is sanctioned for the maintenance of the prisoners it is not a personal payment to them but that expenditure up to the limit of Rs. 100 is to be incurred by the Superintendent in the maintenance of each prisoner. The expenditure appears to be a contingent nature and I would enquire whether it is the intention of Government that the Superintendent should submit a detailed contingent bill accounting for the amounts drawn by him.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.),

Deputy Accountant General.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 3969

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 2nd June 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 445, dated the 31st May 1932, I am directed to inform you that the letter addressed by Mr. Gandhi to

Mr. A. R. Tijaray at Vienna has been posted today for despatch by Air Mail.

2. The letter from Mr. Tijaray to Mr. Gandhi, received with your endorsement, is herewith returned.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 453 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 4th June 1932

To

The Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy together with the letter from Mr. Tijaray to Mr. Gandhi, forwarded with compliments for information with reference to his letter No. 4826, dated 31st May 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE

C. I. Department.

Intelligence Branch.

No. 14280

341-21

From

C. E. S. Fairweather, Esquire, M.A., I.P.,

Deputy Inspector-General of Police, I.B. ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Dated 2nd June 1932

Sir,

In continuation of my No. 13204, dated the 24th May 1932, I have the honour to return herewith the two copies of the Bangiya Sankat-Tran Samiti and the letter written in Uriya received with your Memo. No. 406, dated the 16th May 1932, together with an English translation of the letter.

The two publications contain accounts of the flood stricken areas and the help rendered by the Samiti, and have been published from the Science College, Calcutta by Sir P. C. Roy.

The publications and the letter should be withheld.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) N. MAZUMDAR,

for Deputy Inspector-General of Police,

Intelligence Branch, C.I.D.

No. 457 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 7th June 1932

To

The Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information and guidance with reference to his Nos. 4062 and 4088, dated 6th May 1932.

The two publications and the letter written in Uriya with its English translation are herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Bharat Mataki Jay—Mahatmaki Jay. After paying my humble respect to thee, the friend of the poor and wretched, my humble self writes as follows :

Let me get salvation through my prayer.

With thousands of salutations, prayers and request to Mahatma I, Ananta Tulasidhar Behera, a poor and wretched being of Aditandra village, p.o. Naupadu, Taluka Tekili Raghunathpur, District Ganjam, is anxiously waiting to become the servant of your servants. Let me give out my sorrows. Please pay your kind attention. You know how many years have passed since you took up the interest of the mother land. When I requested others to do something for their mother land, they did not pay any attention to it. They said they would respect Gandhi Mahatma when he would establish Swaraj. If they do now they will be arrested by the police. Then I requested them to wear Khaddar and to disregard Government. What is the use of our paying 8 or 9 thousand rupees to Government? We shall catch fish in Chilka and maintain our family with a portion of the money in a luxurious style. We shall set apart 7,000 rupees for religious purposes, viz. to entertain Sadhus, Sanyasis and Santas. We

would not pay such a heavy amount to Government. Let the Government arrest us. We shall obey Mahatma's order. We shall erect a temple for Bharatmata and instal the Goddess therein and worship her feet and depend on her mercy. I always request the villagers to do like this, but they do not pay attention to it. They cut jokes at me and call me mad. At their remarks I feel much pain and offer prayers to God. I wholly depend on you. If you dishearten me, I shall meet my death like the hare that met its death in quest of the moon. I have heard about your strength, kindness, religion and many other good qualities. People of all classes, young and old, always recite your name in preference to the name of Lord Krishna. You are the incarnation of God. You can give any boon to anybody at your sweet will. I have not the least suspicion in this. I am, with much hope, waiting for the kind duet of your feet. Please do not dishearten this poor fellow. I have got no other support except yours. I am a poor being otherwise I would have gone to meet you, my sinful eyes might have met their desired object. The Darshan (meeting) might have washed away my sins and removed my wants. As I am poor, I cannot have that Darshan. I am humbly requesting one whose eyes are full of kindness, whose good qualities are as deep as the ocean, whose heart is as forgiving as earth and who is as intelligent as Lord Ganesh and as learned as Lord Brihaspati for favour of a Darshan.

As a life without learning, a man without friends and a home without children are empty so is the world to a poor man. Now I am bidding goodbye to you. Like a sandal tree in a jungle you are spreading your scent in India. You are the father of all human beings. As God in golden and silver ages saved many people from sin and granted them salvation, viz. Bali, Angada etc. and removed wants of many other like Sudama, so please remove my want and make me rich and wealthy. People will sing your name and I shall give alms to the poor, open school for children and erect temples and do many other religious things, if I am blessed with the wealth.

Written by Ananta Tulasidhar.

A panegyric

Oh, Lord Gandhi, your eyes are like lotus, your heart is pure and without a single stain, your words are as the mountain and so you will be prosperous. In reality the Government has not imprisoned you, but you are practising Yoga. You are kind, a friend of the poor and untouchables and so I pray at your feet. You are very kind, your good qualities are deep like the ocean. Though I am born in a fisherman's family and leading my life in dread from my very birth, still I hope to be saved by you and nobody else. You are the Lord of India and in the four ages you have taken your birth in the home of four different castes. There is none to help me and save me. You are my parents, God, friend and nearest and dearest relation. I am a fisherman

by caste, and unable to give your true description. Be kind to me and save me from this low birth. Please change my condition and make me rich, I shall erect temples and do many works of public utility.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4022

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Bombay Castle, 6th June 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In continuation of Government letter No. S.D. 3678, dated the 21st May 1932, I am directed to request that Mr. Gandhi may be informed that enquiries have not elicited any information regarding the missing letters, and that his presumption that the letters were probably subjected to a second censorship and withheld, is unfounded.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.),

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 463 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 8th June 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments with a request to inform Mr. Gandhi accordingly This has a reference to this office confidential No. 422, dated 23rd May 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Submitted with reference to Government Resolution Nos. S.D. 177 and 118, dated the 7th January 1932, sanctioning an allowance of Rs. 100 for

each of the State prisoners M. K. Gandhi and V. J. Patel. The Resolutions stated that the amounts should be remitted to the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison. The A. G. accordingly authorised the Superintendent to draw the amounts monthly from the Poona Treasury. It appears however that the Superintendent does not draw the full amounts monthly but as and when the funds already in his hands are exhausted. The A. G. points out that if the fixed allowance sanctioned by Government is not intended to be a personal payment to the State prisoners and that the Superintendent is only authorised to incur an expenditure up to a maximum of Rs. 100 for the maintenance of each prisoner the expenditure would be of a contingent nature, and enquiries if it is the intention of Government that the Superintendent should submit a detailed contingent bill accounting for the amounts drawn by him.

2. This allowance is sanctioned under section 2 of the Bombay Regulation XXV of 1827 which provides that "the Governor in Council shall fix such allowance for the support of the State prisoner as may seem to him expedient in reference to the prisoner's habits and rank in society, and shall specify at the same time through whose means it is to be paid and how it is to be applied ". It would seem from this that the intention is that the amount should be handed over to the prisoner for spending it for specific purposes, but no such definite provision is made and as Messrs. Gandhi and Patel are both interned in a jail and all their requirements in respect of food, clothing etc. are obtained and supplied by the Superintendent there would appear to be no objection to the Superintendent not handing over the amount of the allowance to the prisoners.

3. As to the question whether the expenditure should be treated as of a contingent nature and the Superintendent asked to supply details of the expenditure incurred, it does not seem desirable that information of these details should be sent out of the jail. As observed above, the Superintendent manages the expenditure (on) behalf of both the prisoners and therefore the expenditure is not exactly of a contingent nature. There can obviously be no objection to the Superintendent drawing the amount as the need for it arises, instead of drawing the amounts monthly and keeping it in his hands. This arrangement has the additional advantage in that the savings, if any, will eventually lapse to Government. The I. G. of Prisons may however be requested u.o. in the first instance to let us know how the amount is drawn by the Superintendent of the Prison and for what purposes it is spent and if the same procedure was adopted on the last occasion (1930-31).

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

U.O.R. to I. G. of Prisons, No. S.D. 4060

7th June 1932

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 466 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 9th June 1932

MEMORANDUM

Kindly intimate how the allowances sanctioned for Messrs. Gandhi and Patel are drawn by you—and for what purposes are these monies spent.

It is presumed you maintain records of receipts and expenditure showing details of each transaction.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5199 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 11th June 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your Memorandum No. 466, confidential, dated 9th instant, I have the honour to state that the allowances sanctioned for State prisoners Gandhi and Patel are drawn from the Poona Treasury on a bill in a form of a receipt. The amount is expended for their rations and personal expenses. Money receipts are obtained wherever it is possible and filed separately. The details of expenditure are recorded.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, IMS.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison

Below unofficial reference No. S.D. 4060, dated 7th June 1932, from Government in the Home Department, Bombay :—

(1) The allowances sanctioned for State prisoners Gandhi and Patel are drawn by the Superintendent of the Prison from the Poona Treasury on a bill in the form of a receipt.

(2) The amounts are expended for their rations and personal expenses. Receipts are obtained by the Superintendent wherever it is possible and filed separately.

(3) The details of expenditure are recorded.

(4) The same procedure was adopted on the last occasion (1930-31).

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

Confl.

U. O. R. No. 475, dated 13th June 1932.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4445

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 24th June 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Accountant General,
Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. D.A.I. 395, dated the 2nd instant, I am directed to state that Government do not consider it necessary that the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison should be called upon to submit a detailed contingent bill accounting for the amounts drawn by him in respect of the allowance of Rs. 100 sanctioned by Government for the maintenance of each of the State prisoners M. K. Gandhi and V. J. Patel. It has been ascertained from the Inspector-General of Prisons that receipts are obtained by the Superintendent wherever possible for the expenditure incurred and that the details of expenditure are duly recorded.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

No. S.D. 4446

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 24th June 1932

*Copies forwarded with compliments to —

*with copies of the letter from the Accountant General, Bombay, referred to —

The Commissioner, Central Division,

The Inspector-General of Prisons,

The District Magistrate, Poona,

The Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison,

The Finance Department,

for information with reference to Government Resolutions, Home Department (Political), Nos. S.D. 117 and S.D. 118, dated the 7th January 1932.

By order of the Governor in Council,

(Sd.),

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5132 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 9th June 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

9th June 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

Major Bhandari has informed me of the Government's decision about Shrimati Miraben (Slade). I appreciate the frank reasons given for the decision. I do not know what the Government would call being "actively engaged in the furtherance of the Civil Disobedience Movement". It is likely too that the Government are misinformed. Obviously Miraben has had no chance of refuting the information given to them. I can only reiterate my statement that like several other companions of mine she has been intentionally, and for the movement itself, kept out of its civil resistance part. But if Miraben at any time was, or is now, actively engaged in the furtherance of the Civil Disobedience Movement, my wife and my two sons were taking an active part in it. Yet if they were not in prison, being members of my family they would, I presume, be allowed to see me. As I have made it clear to the Government in previous communications I have long ceased to make any distinction between family members and others. My co-workers are as much members of my family as the members so called.

Unless therefore the Government see their way to revise their decision I must deny myself the pleasure of having weekly visitors. I enforced the self-denying ordinance on Saturday last. Indeed under the ruling given by the Government in Mirabai's case, it would be a serious thing for me to take the responsibility of deciding in the case of Ashram inmates who should and who should not see me.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 470 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 10th June 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to me, for information and favour of any action Government may deem fit.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5248 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 13th June 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send here with a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 24th June 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

I am enclosing herewith copies of certain letters as desired by you.

As regards Mr. Gandhi's correspondence, I might say that there is practically no limit to the number of letters that he is permitted. But ordinarily he writes about 15 to 20 letters a week. Quite a large number of these are postcards mostly informing people about the receipt of parcels of books and fruits etc. sent by them. All letters addressed to political leaders are sent through your office. Before I permitted this procedure, I made certain that this is exactly what was happening in 1930, when he was in Yeravda Central Prison.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 25th June 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

In continuation of my D.O. of yesterday, I am sending herewith a copy of the letter which State prisoner M. K. Gandhi sent to Mr. Bartlett.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5403 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 20th June 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
18th June 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

In continuation of my letter of the 9th instant regarding Shrimati Miraben (Slade) I now enclose her original letter just received in reply to my inquiry. In my opinion, the precise language of this full letter is conclusive answer to the statement that she was " actively engaged in the furtherance of the Civil Disobedience Movement". I think that Government should be in possession of this emphatic denial of the information before them in connection with her doings before her incarceration. To save time I have marked the relevant portions of the letter.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 484 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 20th June 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay (Poona).

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for information a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to me together with the letter addressed to Mr. M. K. Gandhi by Miss Slade.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4456

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 25th June 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the letters addressed to you by Mr. Gandhi which were received with your letter Nos. 470 and 484, dated the 10th and 20th instant, respectively, I am directed to inform you that Government do not consider that any action should be taken on them.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 494 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 27th June 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information with reference to his Nos. 5132 and 5403, dated the 9th and 20th June 1932, respectively.

The letter addressed to Mr. M. K. Gandhi by Miss Slade is herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Bombay,

Beloved Bapu,

I did not write to you on yesterday's Silence Day this time, as I wanted to be able to give you some definite news about my change of residence.

I went to see Shantabai (Govindlal Shivalal's wife) last night, and she is quite ready to have me. But Damodardas went away to Devalali on Saturday and has not returned yet so I have not been able to talk with him. But since my further experiences here, then your letter (on Saturday) and then Dahyabhai's report of a message from you all that I should move, I have decided that I shall go to the other place tomorrow afternoon. That will give me time to explain everything to Damodardas, who is due here, tomorrow morning. I have already talked it over with his poor little 'Aunti' and she has quite agreed that it is a good and proper plan.

My address will therefore be : *C/o Seth Govindlal Shivalal Motilal, Y. Land's End Road, Malabar Hill, Bombay.*

So the left elbow did go into splints! And now, I hear it is out again— so perhaps the dietetic change has also come about. I never thought you would so soon try the saltless diet! I have great hopes of that—but of course the milk and fresh fruits must be there. I go happily on. I am keeping quite fit, in spite of the over-powering damp heat, which I have always found the most trying.

Verrier has gone to the Ashram with Shamrao and another boy who has joined their Ashram. He has read your letter—he has also read what you said in your letter to me about himself, and he says he is writing to you, so I will not stop to answer your question about him further. Shamrao is quite well again.

Now as to the Government's reply to you regarding my activities! Fancy me *directing the movement*—I had a good laugh when I heard of my importance. But I must now tell you just what I was doing, as there may have been things which made them suspicious. My time was fully occupied with the work you had left to me, but in the process of compiling my reports etc. for each week, I naturally mixed freely with my friends, many of whom were taking an active part in the directing of the Movement. On one occasion I do remember writing a letter to the acting President of the Congress for a friend who did not happen to know him personally. And people would sometimes consult me regarding the application of your principles of Truth and Non-violence—But as for directing the Movement, I did not even know the names of the various " War Councils " let alone have contact with them.

Since my release I have again been absorbed in the work you instructed me to do.

So there we are—and, as you say, we may rejoin in His will.

I will certainly take up writing to Radha. I am afraid she is worrying at the moment very much about Damodardas, she wept profusely when I spoke with her about him the day she left here. I tried to make her see that his only happiness could be in the loss of all chance of speculating.

Where have you got to in the Ashram History ? Are you taking it in much detail ? This history will be a tremendous help to us in future years— for your inner meaning and hopes with regard to the Ashram must all be there. It should stir us to further and further efforts.

Jal is expected back here this afternoon—I must go toward this evening to see him—I hear Nargis and Joshi are still in poor health. They will be coming after a few days.

By the way, I asked Damodardas about Radha's expenses, and he says the Ashram is paying.

Love to Vallabhbhai and Mahadev.

Ever your devoted daughter,

MERI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5571 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated the 24th June 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, from the Editor " The Times of India " for favour of orders as to whether the same should be given to him.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Bombay, 22nd June 1932

Dear Sir,

I am sending herewith an open letter to Mr. Gandhi, which I hope you will allow to be delivered to him, as it asks him nothing seditious etc. The letter explains itself.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) C. S. deANDRADE,

Senior Sub-Editor,

The Times of India, Bombay.

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Bombay

Dear Mr. Gandhi,

Following the publication in London and other newspapers of your message contained in your letter to a London friend, I have been asked by the Universal News Agency which is an American Agency and of which I am the correspondent in India, for a message from jail to the American people explaining your attitude as regards peace gestures. Are you prepared to initiate any peace overtures yourself. Do you think that the Civil Disobedience Movement which you inaugurated has still any force in it ?

If this letter reaches you and is allowed by the Jail Superintendent, I will be obliged if you would reply as fully as you are allowed to do.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) C. S. deANDRADE,

Editorial Department,

The Times of India, Bombay.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 490 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 24th June 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, CLE., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for orders with the recommendation that the request should be refused.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4544

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 29th June 1932

From

C. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the letter from Mr. C. S. deAndrade, dated the 22nd instant, and the enclosure thereto intended for Mr. Gandhi, which were received with your letter No. 490, dated the 24th idem, I am directed to state that Government agree that Mr. deAndrade's request should be refused.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 505 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 30th June 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, CLE., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay (Poona).

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to Mr. Ghanashyamdas Birla.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5727 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated the 29th June 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Mr. Ghanashyamdas Birla, for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 1111 of 1932
ORIENTAL TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE
Secretariat, Bombay, 29th June 1932

From

Abdul Kadir Muhammad Hussain, Esquire, J. P.,
Oriental Translator to Government;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith the two Gujarathi letters received with your No. 9140, dated the 17th instant, together with their English translation.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) ABDUL KADIR MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN,
Oriental Translator to Government.

No. 9140 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 17th June 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Oriental Translator to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith two letters written in Gujarathi by prisoners confined in the Visapur Temporary Prison for favour of returning the same with their translation into English as usual.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)
Personal Assistant,
for Inspector-General of Prisons.

No. 2028 of 1932
TEMPORARY PRISON OFFICE
Visapur, 16th June 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Visapur Temporary Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith two letters written by prisoners Fulchandbhai and Raojibhai Manibhai, addressed to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) P. L. O. QUINN,

Superintendent,

Visapur Temporary Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 504 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 30th June 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay (Poona).

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith for favour of orders, a letter addressed to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi by Mr. Ghanashyamdas Birla.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5752 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 30th June 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter addressed to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, by Mr. Ghanashyamdas Birla. Kindly let me know if it may be handed over to the addressee.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

SECRET

No. S.D. 4594

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 30th June 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In modification of the orders contained in Government letter No. S.D. 310, dated the 16th January 1932, I am directed by the Governor in Council to state that the following should be substituted for paragraph 3 of that letter relating to the correspondence of State prisoners M. K. Gandhi and V. J. Patel :

" 3. *Letters*.—Both the prisoners may, as requested by them, be allowed to write letters once a week or oftener with the previous permission of the Superintendent of the Prison. All letters written by Mr. Gandhi should be submitted to Government for scrutiny before transmission, but letters addressed to him as well as all correspondence to and from Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel should be censored by the Superintendent of the Prison. Vernacular correspondence which cannot be translated in the Prison should be sent to the Oriental Translator to Government for translation unless the District Magistrate, Poona, can arrange to have it translated in his office. The Superintendent should take particular care that all objectionable correspondence is withheld, a reference being made to Government in all doubtful cases. Any letters which the Superintendent considers should be seen by the police should be

forwarded by him to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C.I.D., Poona."

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department,

SECRET

No. 508 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 1st July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information and guidance in continuation of this office
Secret No. 43, dated 18th January 1932.

2. Please acknowledge receipt.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5368 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 18th June 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a telegram from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to His Excellency the Governor of United Provinces, for favour of disposal. The necessary amount for the despatch of the telegram will be sent to you on hearing from you, if approved.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 481 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 18th June 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department, Bombay.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of orders.

I strongly oppose the suggested transfer to Yeravda. There is one son already there and we do not desire a further increase in the family party.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4404

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 22nd June 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the telegram from Mr. Gandhi to His Excellency the Governor of the United Provinces received with your endorsement No. 481, dated the 18th instant, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to its being allowed to go on.

2. I am however to add, with reference to paragraph 2 of your endorsement, that Government agree that it is not desirable that Devidas Gandhi should be transferred to the Yeravda Central Prison.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

Copy of a telegram from the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of the United Provinces, Naini Tal, dated the 25th June 1932.

His Excellency would be obliged if Mr. Gandhi could be informed that His Excellency is making enquiries about the condition of his son in Gorakhpur.

No. S.D. 4480

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 26th June 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Inspector-General of Prisons with reference to the correspondence ending with Government letter No. S.D. 4404, dated the 22nd June 1932, for favour of communication to Mr. Gandhi.

By order of the Governor in Council,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 493 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 27th June 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, for communication to State prisoner Gandhi.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. 5735 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

29th June 1932

Returned with compliments. The contents have been duly communicated to the State prisoner Gandhi.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5658 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 27th June 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

Mr. Gandhi had written in his letter that he had lost 3 lbs. in weight and that he suspected he had dysentery. The loss of weight was due to the change in his diet. Probably the same thing caused slightly loose motions that he passed one day and what he suspected may prove an attack of dysentery. I told him not to write all this as it is likely to cause unnecessary excitement outside. I also added, that it would mean unnecessary trouble for me as I would have to answer hundreds of enquiries about him.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Poona, 27th June 1932

Dear Mr. Gandhi,

Will you kindly let me know specifically what it was in your letter to which Major Bhandari took exception and how you altered your letter in question.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

Below letter dated 2nd July 1932, received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 524 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 7th July 1932

To

The Deputy Inspector-General of Police,
C.I.D., Poona.

Forwarded with compliments.

The attached letter may be of interest to the Bengal Police.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

C/o B. Jayantilal & Co.

55/131, Canning Street

Calcutta, 2nd July 1932

My Dear Bapu,

I was released from the Dum Dum Additional Jail yesterday morning after the completion of my term of six months imprisonment. I was arrested in Calcutta on the 19th January last and was convicted on the 21st, I have lost 11 lbs. in weight. I had an attack of dysentery in jail and throughout the winter I suffered from a painful cough almost similar to the one I had developed after the attack of pneumonia last year. All this adversely affected my health. I am now hardly able to do any physical labour and am staying with a friend at Lilorah near Calcutta where I propose to rest for a few days before joining my duty. Friends in Calcutta tell me that you are doing well at Yeravda and that your present weight is 106 lbs. If that is so it must be very good news. I should however like to know from you first hand how are you keeping. I have not yet been able to establish contact with friends who may be in direct touch with you. Before being transferred to the Dum Dum Additional Jail, I was lodged in the Alipore Central for a few days where I met Satish Babu and found him generally speaking well although somewhat reduced. He enjoys considerable freedom there and organises Charkha work among political prisoners. The old Babu Haradaya Nag has been lodged in the Dum Dum *Special* and is also keeping well. Dr. Prafulla Ghose is in the Dum Dum *Special*. I am out of touch with other friends, and it will take some time to know exactly where they are and how they are keeping. At present I feel like being in the woods.

With obeisances.

Yours affectionately,

(Sd.) KRISHNADAS

Below letter dated 2nd July 1932, received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi—

forwarded under No. 524, dated 7th July 1932, from the Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.B./819 of 1932
OFFICE OF THE D.I.G.P., C.I.D.
Post Box No. 46
Poona, 8th July 1932

Returned with compliments to the I. G. of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, Poona.
The contents of the letter have been noted.

(Sd.).....
Personal Assistant to the D.I.G.P., C.I.D.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4635
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 1st July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 504, dated the 30th June 1932, I am directed to return herewith' the letter from Mr. Ghanashyamdas Birla to Mr. Gandhi, and to state that Government see no objection to its being delivered.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 512 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 4th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 5752, dated the 30th June 1932.

The letter in question is herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 509 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 2nd July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your Confidential letter No. 5571, dated 24th June 1932. I have the honour to state that the letter in question has been withheld under the orders of Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

ORDINARY TELEGRAM

His Excellency Governor United Provinces Camp. Over three months ago my son Devdas was tried Delhi and Meerut as civil resister and sometime after conviction transferred Gorakhpur Jail Stop Gorakhpur Climate Notoriously malarial Stop Cause For Removal Companionless To Such Out of The Way Jail Unknown Stop He is suffering Since sixth Instant from Suspected Mild Enteric Though He seems To Be Recovering Stop Request His Removal to Healthier and More Accessible Place Preferably To Deharadun To Join Pandit Jawaharlal with Whom He Is Close Friends or to Yeravda To Join Me If Removal Here at all Possible.

From : M. K. Gandhi, Prisoner,
Yeravda Central Prison.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI

This telegram was received at my place at 6-15 p.m. If I remember rightly we had already pointed out to Government that we have already one son of M. K. Gandhi and second one also here would cause inconvenience and trouble. M. K. Gandhi's telegram to prisons U. P. received back from Bombay Government has already been sent to Yeravda Central Prison for despatch and the attached telegram for the further action taken by U. P. Government through Bombay Government.

For orders,

(Sd.)

TELEGRAM

Name—Prisons.

Address—Poona.

1166/3-C. Following telegram dated 1st July received from Judicial Secretary, Naini Tal. Begins. Devdas Gandhi suffering mild enteric in Gorakhpur Jail. Stop. Telegram received from Mr. Gandhi asking for his removal to healthier place or to Yeravda. Stop. Government of India consulted state no objection. Stop. Please wire whether Bombay Government would agree to his removal to Yeravda. Ends. Have you any objection to proposed transfer.

Bombay Home.
G. W. McELHINNY,
Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

Dated the 2nd July 1932

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5815 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 2nd July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the copy of Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), letter No. S.D. 4594 of 30th June 1932, sent under your endorsement (secret) No. 508 of 1st July 1932.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 10137 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 2nd July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith two Gujarathi letters addressed to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi by prisoners from Visapur Temporary Prison and to state that the same may be delivered to him.

English translation of both the letters is also herewith enclosed for his information.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. 10138 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 2nd July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Visapur Temporary Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information with reference to his letter No. 2028, dated the 16th June 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

TELEGRAM

From

Prisons, Poona ;

To

Bombay Home, Bombay.

STATE EXPRESS

Poona, 3rd July 1932

10158 Your 1166/3/C of second instant object most strongly. Stop. One son already Yeravda Stop Please see this office confidential No. 481, dated eighteenth ultimo and Home Department, confidential No. S.D. 4404 of twenty-second June 1932.

No. 10159 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 3rd July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Bombay.

Copy by post forwarded with compliments for information.

(Sd.).....,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

for Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5856 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 4th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi from Mr. Motilal Roy for favour of orders as to whether the same should be given to him.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 511 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 4th July 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, a letter written by Mr. Motilal Roy to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5883 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 5th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from the Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal :

1. A letter to Mr. Maganlal Chaturbhai Patel, Sojitra.
2. A letter to Harjivan Kotak, Srinagar.
3. A letter to Mr. Narandas Gandhi for Ashram inmates, Sabarmati.
4. A postcard to Manjulaben, Jetpur.
5. A postcard to Dinkar Mehta, Chrompet.
6. A postcard to Radhaben Gandhi, Deolali.

These letters have not been censored in this office.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 519 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 6th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department, Confidential letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, six letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the following persons :

- (1) Mr. Maganlal Chaturbhai Patel, Sojitra.
- (2) Mr. Harjivan Kotak, Srinagar.
- (3) Mr. Narayandas Gandhi for Ashram inmates, Sabarmati.
- (4) Manjulaben, Jetpur.
- (5) Mr. Dinkar Mehta, Chrompet.
- (6) Radhaben Gandhi, Deolali.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4853

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 14th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 519, dated the 6th instant, I am directed to return herewith the letters and postcards written by Mr. Gandhi

to the undermentioned six persons, and to state that Government see no objection to their being allowed to go on :

- (1) Maganlal Chaturbhai Patel, Sojitra.
- (2) Harjivan Kotak, Srinagar.
- (3) Narayandas Gandhi (with 31 other letters, notes etc., intended for the inmates of the Sabarmati Ashram).
- (4) Manjulaben, Jetpur.
- (5) Dinkar Mehta, Chrompet.
- (6) Radhaben Gandhi, Deolali.

2. I am also to enclose for your information, translations of the 37 letters, postcards, etc., prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 577 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 15th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of further disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 5883, dated 5th July 1932.

The letters together with their English translation are herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. 5938 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 6th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith for favour of order two telegrams from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, to be despatched to—

(1) Papa, Gandhi Ashram, Tiruchongodu (S.I.).

(2) C. Rajagopalachari, prisoner, District Jail, Vellore.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

Gorakhpur

Mahatma Gandhi Central Jail,

Poona

Deeply grieved Vardavari Papas husband died Trichinapolly 28th fortnight illness papa Tiruchengodu.

DEVIDAS

Devdas wires news your husband's death. We are all deeply grieved but you will not grieve over death which is common lot of humanity. Remember you are daughter of brave father may God give you peace love from us all.

BAPU

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 521 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 6th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders two telegrams from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to be despatched to—

- (1) Papa, Gandhi Ashram, Tiruchongodu (S.I.).
- (2) C. Rajagopalachari, prisoner, District Jail, Vellore.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5939 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 6th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. 5816, dated 2nd July 1932 and as per your verbal instructions this morning, I have the honour to send herewith four letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 526 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 7th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your Confidential letter No. 5939, dated the 6th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith three letters out of which two should be withheld and filed and the third may be delivered to the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

The fourth letter has been forwarded to the Oriental Translator to Government of Bombay for English translation and will be returned to you when received.

I have the honour to be.

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5940 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 6th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith two letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of orders. They were received yesterday and were opened.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 527 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 7th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 525 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 7th July 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Oriental Translator to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a Gujarathi letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi for favour of returning the same with its translation into English as usual.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.),

Personal Assistant,

for Inspector-General of Prisons.

Below letter from Mr. F. B. Fisher, dated 8th June 1932.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 531 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 8th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments with a request to return this with the book referred to by the writer.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. 6238 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 15th July 1932

Returned with compliments together with the book.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

The First Methodist Episcopal Church

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Ministers

Frederick B. Fisher

Peter F. Stair

June 8, 1932

Mahatma Gandhi

Yeravda Jail

Poona, India

Beloved Gandhiji,

I have tried to put into American language the story of your life as I have seen it through the eyes of love and admiration. The publishers are sending you a copy under separate cover. My manuscript bore the title " Gandhi". The publishers, however, had a belief that a different title would give it

a more popular appeal in America, so they rechristened it " That Strange Little Brown Man Gandhi ". I do hope you will like it. It is my belief that it represents your ideals, your work and your personality. Some of the more popular phrases and descriptions may bring a smile to your lips and some of them you may not like at all. But always keep in your mind as you read the pages that the book is written to appeal to the millions of Americans who want to know intimately and in American phraseology the character of your life and work.

It hurts me to think of you in prison and I do hope the authorities will not think it necessary to withhold the book from you. We pray for you every day.

Mrs. Fisher collaborated with me in the writing of the chapter on Mrs. Gandhi. I am sending her a copy of the book in care of the Ashram at Ahmedabad.

With deep personal affection.

Very sincerely yours,

(Sd.) F. B. FISHER

No. S.D. 4742

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 8th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 521, dated the 6th instant, I am directed to return herewith the two telegrams from Mr. Gandhi to (1) Papa, Gandhi Ashram, Tiruchongodu (South India), and (2) C. Rajagopalachari, prisoner, District Jail, Vellore, and to state that Government see no objection to their being allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 529 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 8th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal with reference to his letter No. 5938, dated 6th June 1932.

Two telegrams are herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Below a copy of a telegram No. 2320, dated the 6th July 1932 from the United Provinces Government.

No. 1166/3-C

HOME DEPARTMENT

Bombay Castle, 7th July 1932

Copy forwarded with compliments to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, for communication to Mr. Gandhi as requested by the United Provinces Government.

By order of the Governor in Council,

(Sd.) G. M. MCELHINNY,

Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

No. 1166/3-C

HOME DEPARTMENT

Bombay Castle, 7th July 1932

Copy forwarded with compliments to the Inspector-General of Prisons, for information.

By order of the Governor in Council,

(Sd.) LOUIS G. PINTO,

Under Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

Copy of a telegram No. 2320-1, dated the 6th July 1932, from the United Provinces Government.

Continuation this Government's telegram 2256-J, July one. Editor Kalyan has stated that he saw Devdas Gandhi on June twenty-fourth and found his condition quite satisfactory stop. He felt indisposed on June six and was laid up with fever which was suspected to be typhoid stop. His condition was never critical and temperature came down to normal on twenty-second stop. During illness he lost fifteen pounds stop. Though weak his condition appears quite satisfactory as was the treatment he received stop. This statement agrees with information received by this Government from Superintendent Jail stop. This Government would be glad if this could be (Communicated to Mr. Gandhi at Yeravda Jail.

True copy.

(Sd.),
for Superintendent.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4748

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 8th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the letter from Mr. Gandhi to Mr. Ghanshyamdas Birla received with your letter No. 505, dated the 30th June 1932, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to its being allowed to go on.

2. I am to enclose for your information a translation of the letter furnished by the Oriental Translator to Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 538 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 9th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of further disposal with reference to his letter No. 572, dated 9th June 1932.

The letter together with its English Translation is herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4741

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 8th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the letter from Mr. Motilal Roy to Mr. Gandhi received with your letter No. 511, dated the 4th instant, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to its being delivered.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 528 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 8th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information and necessary action with reference to his letter No. 5856, dated the 4th July 1932.

The letter from Mr. Motilal Roy is herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 539 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 9th July 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 5940, dated the 6th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith a letter for delivery to the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4777

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 9th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the letter from Mr. M. A. Khan of Ferozepore to Mr. Gandhi which was received with your letter No. 527, dated the 7th instant, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to its being delivered.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 552 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 12th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of necessary action in continuation of this office No. 539, dated the 9th July 1932.

The letter in question is herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6049 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Dated 9th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated the 30th June 1932, from the Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

1. A postcard written to Shrimati Gokiben, Seth Karsandas Dharamsing Bungalow, Borivli.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 545 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 11th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department, No. S.D. 4594, dated the 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith for favour of disposal, a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4810

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 12th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the postcard from Mr. Gandhi to Shri Gokibehen of Borivli which was received with your letter No. 545, dated the 11th instant, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to its being allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

No. 561 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 13th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of further disposal with reference to his letter No. 6049, dated 9th July 1932.

The postcard is herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C. 61 of 1932

ORIENTAL TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE

Secretariat, Bombay, 13th July 1932

From

Abdul Kadir Muhammad Hussain, Esquire, J. P.,
Oriental Translator to Government;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith the Gujarathi letter received with your No. 525, dated the 7th instant, together with an English translation thereof.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) A. K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN,

Oriental Translator to Government.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 570 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 15th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

In continuation of this office Confidential letter No. 526, dated the 7th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith the remaining letter (4th) for delivery to the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

English translation of the letter is also herewith enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5973 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 7th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from the Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

1. A letter to Bhai Parmanand, M.L.A., Lahore.
2. A letter to Saraladevi Chawdhari, Calcutta.
3. A letter to Mr. Ghanshyamdas Birla, Calcutta.
4. A letter to Devdas Gandhi, a prisoner in Gorakhpur District Prison.
5. A postcard to Mataprasad Gupta, Pratapgarh.
6. A postcard to Ferozabai Taliarkhan, Mhow.

These letters have not been censored in this office.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 537 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 8th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of

disposal six letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the following persons :

1. Bhai Parmanand, M.L.A., Lahore.
2. Shrimati Saraladevi Chawdhari, Calcutta.
3. Mr. Ghanshyamdas Birla, Calcutta.
4. Devdas Gandhi, a prisoner in Gorakhpur District Prison.
5. Mataprasad Gupta, Pratapgarh.
6. Ferozabai Taliarkhan, Mhow.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4774

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 9th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 537, dated the 8th instant, I am directed to return herewith the letter from Mr. Gandhi to Shrimati Saraladevi Chawdhari, Calcutta, and to inform you that Government see no objection to its being allowed to go on.

2. With regard to the remaining five letters and postcards, which are in vernacular, I am to state that they have been forwarded for translation to the Oriental Translator to Government and that a further communication will be made to you in due course regarding their disposal.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 541 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 11th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal with reference to his letter No. 5073, dated 7th July 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4852

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 14th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In continuation of Government letter No. S.D. 4774, dated the 9th instant, I am directed to return herewith the remaining three letters and two post-

1. Bhai Parmanand, M.L.A., Lahore.
2. Ghanshyamdas Birla, Calcutta.
- 3..Devdas Gandhi, prisoner in Gorakhpur Distric persons,
4. Mataprasad Gupta, Pratapgarh
5. Ferozabai Taliarkhan, Mhow.

cards addressed by Mr.
Gandhi to the marginally
being allowed to go on.
noted five and Prison. and
to state that Government
see no objection to their
being allowed to go on.

2. I am also to enclose for your information, translations of the letters and postcards prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Yours most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 572 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 15th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of further disposal in continuation of this office confidential No. 541, dated 11th July 1932.

The remaining five letters together with English translation are herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5884 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 5th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith three letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to the following three prisoners for favour of disposal. These letters have not been censored in this office :

1. A letter to Fulchand Bapuji Shah, a prisoner in the Visapur Temporary Prison.
2. A letter to Kishorilal Masruwala, a prisoner in the Nasik Road Central Prison.
3. A letter to Swami Anand, a prisoner in Thana District Prison.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Yours most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 520 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 6th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government Home Department, Confidential letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932.

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, three letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the following prisoners :

- (1) Fulchand Bapuji Shah, a prisoner in Visapur Temporary Prison.
- (2) Kishorilal Masruwala, a prisoner in Nasik Road Central Prison.
- (3) Swami Anand, prisoner in Thana District Prison.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Yours most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4854

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 14th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 520, dated the 6th instant, I am directed to return herewith the three letters written by Mr. Gandhi to the undermentioned persons, and to state that Government have no objection to their being allowed to go on :

- (1) Fulchand Bapuji Shah, a prisoner in the Visapur Temporary Prison.

(2) Kishorilal Masruwala, a prisoner in the Nasik Road Central Prison.

(3) Swami Anand, a prisoner in the Thana District Prison.

2. I am also to enclose for your information, translations of the letters furnished by the Oriental Translator to Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 573 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 15th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of further disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 5884, dated 5th July 1932.

Three letters together with their English Translation are herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6011 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 8th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour

to send herewith three letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

1. A letter to Shri Laxmi Tiruchengodu (South India).
2. A letter to Shri Rahenaben, Baroda.
3. A postcard to Zohrabanu, Delhi.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 536 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 8th July 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, CLE., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government Home Department letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, three letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the following persons :

1. Shri Laxmi Tiruchengodu (South India).
2. Shri Rahenaben, Baroda.
3. Zohrabanu, Delhi.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4855

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 14th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the three letters from Mr. Gandhi addressed to (1) Shri Laxmi Tiruchengodu (South India), (2) Shri Rahenaben, Baroda, and (3) Zohrabanu, Delhi, which were received with your letter No. 536, dated the 8th instant, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to their being allowed to go on.

2. I am also to forward, for your information, translations of the letters prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 574 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 15th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of further disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 6011, dated 8th July 1932.

Three letters together with their English translation are herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6124 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 11th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith ten letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 553 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 12th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 6124, dated 11th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith six letters out of which two should be withheld and the four delivered to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

The remaining four out of which one is addressed to prisoner Mahadeobhai Desai, have been forwarded to the Oriental Translator to Government, Bombay and will be returned when received.

Please note that—

denotes letters to be withheld.

denotes letters to be delivered.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 554 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 12th July 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Oriental Translator to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith four letters out of which three received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and one for Mahadevbhai Desai for favour of returning them together with their translation into English as usual.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C/75 of 1932

ORIENTAL TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE

Secretariat, Bombay, 24th July 1932

From

Abdul Kadir Muhammad Hussain, Esquire, J. P.,
Oriental Translator to Government;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith the four letters received with your Confidential No. 554, dated 12th July 1932, together with a translation into English of letters marked 1, 2 and 3. Packet No. 4 contains a proof copy of a Gujarathi commentary on the Gita which is appearing every week in the Gujarathi newspaper.

It may be noted that the postcard marked 1 is for Mansukhlal K. Gandhi, prisoner No. 19308, the letter marked 2 and the packet marked 4 are for

State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and that the letter marked 3 is for Mahadevbhai Desai.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

(Sd.) A. K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN,

Oriental Translator to Government.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 627 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 25th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of further disposal in continuation of this office confidential letter No. 653, dated the 12th July 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6147 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 12th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith three letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 559 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 12th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 6147, dated 12th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith for a letter delivery to the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

The remaining two letters have been forwarded to the Oriental Translator to Government, Bombay and will be returned when received.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.),

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

for Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C/70 of 1932

ORIENTAL TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE

Secretariat, Bombay, 22nd July 1932

From

Abdul Kadir Muhammad Hussain, Esquire, J. P.,
Oriental Translator to Government;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith the two letters received with your Confidential letter No. 559, dated the 12th instant, together with an English translation thereof.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) A. K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN,

Oriental Translator to Government.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 604 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

In continuation of this office letter No. 559, dated the 12th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith for further disposal, remaining two letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

English translation of both the letters is herewith enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 575 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 15th July 1932,

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith, for favour of censor and disposal, a packet containing letters from Sabarmati Ashram addressed to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6237 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 15th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith four letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

1. A letter to Miraben (Miss Slade).
2. A letter to Velusami.
3. A postcard to Sudhir Kumar.
4. A postcard to Maulavi Saheb M. A. Khan.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 581 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 15th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department letter No. S.D. 4594, dated the 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, four letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the following persons :

1. to Miraben (Miss Slade),
2. to Velusami,

3. to Sudhir Kumar,
4. to Maulavi Saheb M. A. Khan.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Yours most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4885
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 16th My 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the four letters from Mr. Gandhi addressed to the marginally noted persons which were received with your letter No. 581,

1. Miss Slade, Bombay
2. A. Velusami, Sivaganga (South India).
3. Sudhir Kumar Sen Gupta, Hoogly (Bengal).
4. Maulavi Saheb M. A. Khan, Ferozepur (Punjab).

dated the 15th instant,
I am directed to inform
you that Government see
no objection to their

being allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 589 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 18th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of further disposal with reference to his letter No. 6237, dated 15th July 1932.

Four letters are herewith returned.

(Sd.)

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

for Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.**CONFIDENTIAL**

No. 5972 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 7th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith three letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi for favour of disposal.

One registered letter from T. K. M. N. Adigal, Madura is also sent herewith.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 534 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 8th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your Confidential letter No. 5972, dated 7th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith two letters for delivery to the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

The remaining two letters have been forwarded to the Oriental Translator to Government of Bombay and will be returned to you when received.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

for Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 535 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 8th July 1932

To

The Oriental Translator to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith two letters received for the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi for favour of returning the same with their translation into English as usual.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.),

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

for Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C/64 of 1932

ORIENTAL TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE

Secretariat, Bombay, 16th July 1932

From

Abdul Kadir Muhammad Hussain, Esquire, J. P.,
Oriental Translator to Government;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith the two letters for the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi received with your Confidential No. 535, dated 8th instant, together with their translation in English.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) A. K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN,
Oriental Translator to Government.**CONFIDENTIAL**

No. 588 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 18th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

In continuation of this office letter No. 534, dated 8th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith, for favour of further disposal, the remaining two letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

English translation of both the letters is also herewith enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.),

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

for Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6006 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 8th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith 15 letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 530 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 8th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 6006, dated 8th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith seven letters out of which one should be withheld and the remaining six delivered to the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

The disposal of the remaining eight letters is as follows :

Four letters have been forwarded to the Oriental Translator to Government and will be returned to you when received.

Two advertisements destroyed.

One sent to Deputy Inspector-General of Police, for information and returned.

One returned under separate number.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 533 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 8th July 1932

To

The Oriental Translator to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith four letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi for favour of returning the same together with their translation into English as usual.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.),
Personal Assistant,
for Inspector-General of Prisons.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6050 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 9th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith eight letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6043 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 9th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 546 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 11th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal and orders if any, a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to me.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6183 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 13th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

13th July 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

You will please excuse me for worrying you again over my troubles. Major Bhandari told me yesterday, that in answer to my letter of the 9th instant, he was to inform me that there was no delay either in your office or Major Bhandari's in attending to my correspondence as soon as it was received from Government. This I knew. My inquiry was exactly about the Government's procedure. I have been permitted to write letters to friends outside and fellow prisoners, including those at Yeravda, whether male or female. I have written to the latter as regularly as to my people at the Ashram. There is no use my writing to the fellow prisoner in this Jail if my letters and theirs are not exchanged quickly. The letters naturally relate to mutual welfare and the welfare of those in whom they and I are interested.

The same thing applies to the Ashram letters.

Some of the letters that I received from others are from my stand point important. Whether they are regarded by the authorities as important or otherwise, I should not like to lose them.

My experience of past imprisonments that when the correspondence goes to the Government it takes time to receive attention. In 1930 in the commencement my letters were sent to the Government and I know that they took nearly six weeks before I could get the first batch given to me and this after repeated requests. Subsequently Major Martin, the then Superintendent, was empowered to deal with the correspondence and naturally there was no delay. Of course I can have nothing to say as to who examines my correspondence, what I am concerned about is —

- (1) What are exactly the revised instructions about my correspondence ?
- (2) How long shall I have to wait before I receive my letters and before what I write is posted ?
- (3) Shall I continue to receive back those letters which may be rejected, and as before be given the reasons for rejection ?
- (4) Will the letters and parcels withheld from me be treated as my property and cared for and delivered to me whenever I may be discharged ?

I shall thank you to forward this letter to the Government and procure for me an early reply.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 580 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 15th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to me, for information and favour of any action Government may deem fit .

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4920

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 19th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the letter addressed to you by Mr. Gandhi which was received with your letter No. 546, dated the 11th instant, I am directed to request you to inform him that, under the revised orders of Government, all letters *written by* him are submitted to Government for scrutiny, whereas letters *addressed* to him are, as before, scrutinised by the Jail Authorities, a reference being made to Government only in doubtful cases. Mr. Gandhi may be assured that his letters will be dealt with as expeditiously as possible but that the time taken in disposal will necessarily depend on the number of letters written as also on whether they are in English or in the vernacular, as in the latter case some inevitable delay will be involved in having them translated.

2. A further communication will be made to you regarding the questions raised by Mr. Gandhi in his letter of the 13th instant which was forwarded with your letter No. 580, dated the 15th instant.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 605

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of communication to Mr. M. K. Gandhi.

This has a reference to his letter No. 6043 and 6183, dated 9th and 13th July 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 542 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 11th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference your letter No. 6050, dated the 9th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith three letters out of which one should be withheld and the remaining two delivered to the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

The disposal of the remaining five letters is as follows :

Four letters forwarded to the Oriental Translator to Government for translation and will be returned to you when received.

One letter sent to Government for orders.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 543 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 11th July 1932

To

The Oriental Translator to Government of Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith four letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi for favour of returning the same with their translation into English as usual.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 544 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 11th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4809

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 12th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the letter from Miss Slade to Mr. Gandhi forwarded with your letter No. 544, dated the 11th instant, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to its being delivered.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 560 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 13th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of necessary action with reference to his letter No. 6050, dated the 9th July 1932.

The letter in question is herewith returned.

(Sd.),

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
for Inspector General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C/73 of 1932

ORIENTAL TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE

Secretariat, Bombay, 23rd July 1932

From

Abdul Kadir Muhammad Hussain, Esquire, J. P.,
Oriental Translator to Government;

To

Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith the four letters intended for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and forwarded with your Confidential No. 543, dated 11th instant. A translation into English of the letters marked 2, 3 and 4(a), 4(b) and 4(d) respectively accompanies. The postcard marked 1 is returned untranslated as it is in a language unknown to any one in the office. The letter marked 4(c) is in English.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) A. K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN,
Oriental Translator to Government.

Below letter dated 5th July 1932, from S. Tilak, Bombay, addressed to—

Mahatma Gandhi, received under No. 532, dated 8th July 1932 from the Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, Poona.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 46

OFFICE OF THE D.I.G.P., C.I.D.

Poona, 9th July 1932

No. S.B. 1826 of 1932

Returned with compliments.

If such letters are passed on to Gandhi I would suggest that it is undesirable that any endorsement of the nature, e.g. on the attached letter, should be made on them.

(Sd.),

for Deputy Inspector-General of Police,

C.I.D., Poona.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 549 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 11th July 1932

R. W. C.

Thanks for your suggestion, which will receive my most careful attention.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 548 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 11th July 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Oriental Translator to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi for favour of returning the same with its translation into English as usual.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C/62 of 1932

ORIENTAL TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE

Secretariat, Bombay, 14th July 1932

From

Abdul Kadir Muhammad Hussain, Esquire, J. P.,
Oriental Translator to Government;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith a letter in Gujarathi for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi received with your Confidential No. 548, dated 11th July 1932, together with its translation into English.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) A. K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN,

Oriental Translator to Government.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 576 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 15th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

In continuation of this office Confidential letter No. 430, dated 8th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith a letter for delivery to the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

English translation of the vernacular letter is herewith enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C/69 of 1932

ORIENTAL TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE

Secretariat, Bombay, 21st July 1932

From

Abdul Kadir Muhammad Hussain, Esquire, J. P.,
Oriental Translator to Government;

To

Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith the four letters received with your Confidential letter No. 533, dated the 8th instant, together with an English translation thereof.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) A. K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN,
Oriental Translator to Government.**CONFIDENTIAL**

No. 601 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd July 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

In continuation of this office Confidential letter No. 576, dated 15th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith for further disposal remaining four letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

English translation of the letters is herewith enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6213 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE

Dated 14th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith three letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 568 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 15th July 1932

To

The Oriental Translator to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith three letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to request the favour of returning them with their translation into English as usual.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C/66 of 1932

ORIENTAL TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE
Secretariat, Bombay, 20th July 1932

From

Abdul Kadir Muhammad Hussain, Esquire, J.P.,
Oriental Translator to Government;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith the three letters received with your confidential letter No. 568, dated the 15th instant, together with an English translation thereof.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) A. K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN,
Oriental Translator to Government.**CONFIDENTIAL**

No. 602 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 22nd July 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your confidential letter No. 6213, dated the 14th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith, for favour of disposal, three letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

English translation of the letters is also enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6239 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE

Dated 15th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith 16 letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 584 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 16th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your Confidential letter No. 6236, dated the 15th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith nine letters out of which eight should be held over till release and the remaining one delivered to the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

The disposal of the remaining seven letters is as follows :

Five letters have been forwarded to the Oriental Translator to Government of Bombay and will be returned when received.

Two advertisements destroyed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 583 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 16th July 1932

To

The Oriental Translator to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith five letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to request the favour of returning them with their translation into English as usual.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C/80 of 1932

ORIENTAL TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE

Secretariat, Bombay, 29th July 1932

From

Abdul Kadir Muhammad Hussain, Esquire, J. P.,
Oriental Translator to Government;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith the five letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and forwarded with your Confidential No. 583, dated 16th July 1932, together with a translation of four of them and a substance of the fifth letter, which is a rather rambling communication condemning the N.C.O. movement.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) A. K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN,

Oriental Translator to Government.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 681 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 29th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

In continuation of this office confidential letter No. 584, dated 16th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith, for further disposal, the remaining five letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi. English translation of the letters is herewith enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6349 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE

Dated 19th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith 12 letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal :

1. A letter to Mrs. Esther Menon, Birmingham.
2. A letter to Mr. Carleton Washburnemann, U.S.A.
3. A letter to Mr. Krishnadas, Calcutta.
4. A letter to Mr. Motilal Roy, Chandranagore.
5. A letter to Miss Muriel Lester, London.
6. A letter to Princess Aristarchi, Germany.
7. A Postcard to Master Sidney, U.S.A.
8. A Postcard to T. Y. K. M. Nithyanandam, Madras City.
9. A Postcard to Mr. Sailes Chandra, Dacca.

10. A Postcard to Mr. Ganesh Datta Shanna, Agarmalwa.
11. A Postcard to Molvi Saheb Ali Hasan, Patna.
12. A Postcard to Mr. Narhari, Barrackpore.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 592 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 19th My 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department letter No. S. D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, 12 letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the following persons :

Letters—

1. Mrs. Esther Menon, Birmingham.
2. Mr. Carleton Washburnemann, U.S.A.
3. Mr. Krishnadas, Calcutta.
4. Mr. Motilal Roy, Chandranagore.
5. Miss Muriel Lester, London.
6. Princess Artistarchi, Germany.

Postcards—

7. T. Y. K. M. Nithyanandam, Madras City.
8. Mr. Sailes Chandra, Dacca.
9. Mr. Molvi Saheb Ali Hasan, Patna.
10. Mr. Narhari, Barrackpore.
11. Mr. Ganesh Dutt Sharma, Agarmalwa.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.)..... ,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
for Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4979

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 22nd July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the six letters and six postcards written by Mr. Gandhi which were received with your letter No. 592, dated the 19th instant, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to their being allowed to go on.

2. I am also to enclose for your information a translation of the postcard addressed to Ganesh Datta Sharma Gaud, which is in Hindi, prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 606 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with accompaniments forwarded with compliments for favour of further disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 6349, dated 19th July 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6454 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE

Dated 22nd July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith two letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, one from Mr. G. C. Puri, and another from Mr. Robert D. Mennell, 41 East Cheap, London E. C. 3, and to inquire whether the same should be handed over to him.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 598 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd July 1932

R. W. C.

Both should be withheld.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. 6484 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

Poona, 23rd July 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6427 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE

Dated 21st July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a telegram written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to the Superintendent, Lahore Central Jail, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 594 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 21st July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith for favour of orders a *telegram written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the Superintendent, Central Jail, Lahore.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.).....,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

for Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

*Superintendent, Central Jail, Lahore.

Here Khurshedbai Naoroji had operation. Pray inform me cause operation and present condition. Gandhi. Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6426 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE

Dated 21st July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from the Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

1. A letter to Mrs. Nargisbehn Captain, Bombay.
2. A letter to Shrimati Khurshedbehn Naoroji, Central Jail, Lahore.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 595 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 21st July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department, confidential letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith

for favour of disposal, two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the following persons :

1. A letter to Mrs. Nargisbehn Captain, Bombay.
2. A letter to Shrimati Khurshedbehn Naoroji, Central Jail, Lahore.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.),

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

for Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4980

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 22nd July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter Nos. 594 and 595, dated the 21st instant, I am directed to return herewith the telegram and the two letters addressed by Mr. Gandhi to the Superintendent, Central Jail, Lahore ; Mrs. Nargisbehn Captain, Bombay and Shrimati Khurshedbehn Naoroji, Central Jail, Lahore, respectively, and to state that Government see no objection to their being allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

No. 613 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 23rd July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with accompaniments forwarded with compliments for further disposal with reference to his letter Nos. 6426 and 6427, dated 21st July 1932.

(Sd.),

Inspector-General of Prisons.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6400 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE

Dated 20th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from the Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

1. A letter to Shridhar Damodar Satavlekar, Satara.
2. A postcard to Natwarlal J. Shah, Surat.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison,

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 594 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 20th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department, confidential letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the following persons :

1. A letter to Shripad D. Satavlekar, Aundh District, Satara.
2. Postcard to Natwarlal J. Shah, Surat.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.),

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

for Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4999

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 23rd July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the letter and postcard written by Mr. Gandhi which were received with your letter No. 594, dated the 20th July 1932, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to their being allowed to go on.

2. Translations of the letters prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government are enclosed for your information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 625 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 25th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for further disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 6400, dated the 20th July 1932.

The letter and the postcard together with their English translation are herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6530 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE
Dated 25th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter received by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi from Mr. G. Birla and to enquire whether the same should be handed over to him.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 629 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 25th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 6530, dated 25th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith the letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi from Mr. G. Birla and to state that the same may be handed over to him.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 626 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 25th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

In continuation of this office No. 560, dated 13th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith for further disposal the remaining four letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

English translation of the letters with the exception of postcard marked 1 is herewith enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6348 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE

Dated 19th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter received from one Khorshed, for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, and to enquire whether the same should be handed over to him.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 608 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, a letter received from one Khorshed for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

2. The first letter referred to in the accompanying letter was handed over to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi there being nothing objectionable.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4991

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 23rd July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the letter from Khurshed, Lahore, to Mr. Gandhi which was forwarded with your letter No. 608, dated the 22nd instant, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to its being delivered.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

No. 624 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 25th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with accompaniment forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal with reference to his letter No. 6348, dated 19th July 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6214 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE

Dated 14th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from the Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

1. A letter to Gangaben, a prisoner in the Yeravda Female Jail.
2. A letter to Chhaganlal Joshi, a prisoner in the Yeravda Extension Camp.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 579 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE Poona,

15th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department, No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant, (Sd.) E. E. DOYLE, Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4998

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 23rd July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clec, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the two letters written by Mr. Gandhi which were received with your letter No. 579, dated the 15th July 1932, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to their being allowed to go on.

2. Translations of the letters in vernacular prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government are enclosed for your information.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,.

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 622 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 25th July 1932

To

The Superintendent of Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with accompaniments forwarded with compliments for favour of further disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 6214, dated 14th July 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6143 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 11th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

A letter to Narayandas Gandhi of Ashram, Sabarmati.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 555 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 12th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department, Confidential letter No. S.D. 45/94, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith for favour of disposal, letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to Narayandas Gandhi of Ashram at Sabarmati.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy together with accompaniments forwarded with compliments for favour of further disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 6143, dated 11th July 1932.

It is requested that the discrepancy pointed out by Government in para. 2 of the letter under reply may please be explained.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Inspector-General of Prisons.

Sir,

The packet being addressed to Ashram we did not count the letters whether they were 32 or 33 and Yeravda Central Prison phones me the same. Perhaps M. K. Gandhi may not have included the letter No. 27 to Chhotubhai. He may be, if approved, asked to write again to the addressee (Chhotubhai). Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison can please himself on the point.

E. E. DOYLE

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4925

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 19th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the 32 letters and notes addressed by Mr. Gandhi to Narayandas Gandhi and other inmates of the Sabarmati Ashram, which were forwarded with your letter No. 555, dated the 12th instant, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to their being allowed to go on.

2. I am also to enclose, for your information, translations of the letters and notes prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government, and to observe that, whereas according to the list of addressees given in the letter to Narayandas Gandhi there should have been 33 letters in all, only 32 were

found in the packet received with your letter, the one intended for Chhotubhai (No. 27) being missing.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 603 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 22nd July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy together with accompaniments, forwarded with compliments, for favour of further disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 6143, dated 11th July 1932.

2. It is requested that the discrepancy pointed out by Government in para. 2 of the letter under reply may please be explained.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6332 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE
Dated 18th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith five letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

(1) One postcard to Shri Laxmi, Tiruchengoda.

- (2) One postcard to Khodidas H. Shah, Rojid.
- (3) One letter to Devdas Gandhi, Gorakhpur.
- (4) One letter to Moulvi Hamidali Khan, Delhi.
- (5) Ashram post for inmates of Sabarmati Ashram.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 586 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 18th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, five letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the following persons :

- (1) Shri Laxmi Tiruchengoda.
- (2) Khodidas H. Shah, Rojid.
- (3) Devdas Gandhi, Gorakhpur.
- (4) Moulvi Hamidali Khan, Delhi.
- (5) Ashram post for inmates of Sabarmati Ashram.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.),.....

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

for Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4943

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 20th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 586, dated the 18th instant, I am directed to return herewith the postcard from Mr. Gandhi to Khodidas H. Shah of Rajid, Kathiawar, and to state that Government see no objection to its being allowed to go on.

2. As regards the remaining three letters and one postcard, I am to state that they have been forwarded for translation to the Oriental Translator to Government and that a further communication will be made to you in due Course regarding their disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 600 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information and necessary action with reference to his Confidential letter No. 6332, dated 18th July 1932.

Postcard addressed to Khodidas H. Shah is herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5031

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 26th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In continuation of Government letter No. S.D. 4943, dated the 20th instant,

1. Shri Laxmi, Tiruchengodu, S. India
2. Devdas Gandhi, Gorakhpur, U.P
3. Moulvi Hamid Ali Khan, Delhi
4. Narayandas Gandhi, Ahmedabad (containing
besides 15 other letters and notes intended for
the Sabarmati Ashram)

I am directed to return
herewith the remaining
three letters and one post-
card addressed by Mr.
Gandhi to the marginally.
noted four persons and

to state that Government see no objection to their being allowed to go on.

2. I am also to enclose, for your information, translations of the letters and the postcard prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 652 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 27th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with accompaniments forwarded with compliments for disposal in continuation of this office Confidential No. 600, dated 22nd July 1932.

(Sd.)..... ,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

for Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6453 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE

Dated 22nd July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

1. A letter to Devdas Gandhi, in Gorakhpur District Jail.
2. A letter to Shrimati Mirabai, C/o Babu Shiva Prasad Gupta, Benares.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 609 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the following persons :

- (1) Devdas Gandhi, in Gorakhpur District Jail.

(2) Shrimati Mirabai, C/o Babu Shiva Prasad Gupta, Benares.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4995

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 23rd July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 609, dated the 22nd instant, I am directed to return herewith the letter written by Mr. Gandhi to Miss. Slade and to state that Government see no objection to its being allowed to go on.

2. I am to add that the letter addressed to Devdas Gandhi, which is in vernacular, has been forwarded for translation to the Oriental Translator to Government and that a further communication will be made to you in due course regarding its disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 620 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 26th July 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, for disposal.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

This has a reference to his No. 6453, dated 22nd July 1932.

No. 6593 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE
26th July 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5033
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 26th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In continuation of Government letter No. S.D. 4995, dated the 23rd instant, I am directed to return herewith the letter written by Mr. Gandhi to Devdas Gandhi, and to state that Government see no objection to its being allowed to go on.

2. I am also to enclose for your information a translation of the letter prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 650 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 27th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with accompaniments forwarded with compliments for further disposal in continuation of this office Confidential No. 620, dated 25th July 1932.

(Sd.)..... ,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
for Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6544 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON'S OFFICE

Dated 25th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

Ref.—Discrepancy pointed out in para. 2 of Government Letter No. S.D. 4925 (Confl.), dated 19th July 1932.

I am afraid I am unable to explain it. Mr. Gandhi says that the letter was duly sent.

The letters were not taken out of the envelope at all by this Office. However I will ask Mr. Gandhi to write another letter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

Confidential letter No. 6591, dated 26th July 1932, from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, to the Inspector-General of Prisons, Poona.

I have the honour to send herewith a telegram addressed by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Pandit Malaviyaji, Hindu University, Benares, for favour of orders.

No. 647 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 28th July 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Secretary, Home Department, for orders.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. SD. 5030
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 26th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the telegram addressed by Mr. Gandhi to Pandit Malaviya, Hindu University, Banares, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to its being allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 649 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 27th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy together with the telegram forwarded with compliments for disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 6595, dated 26th July 1932.

(Sd.),
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
for Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6482 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 23rd July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from the Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith three letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

- (1) A postcard to Shrimati Rohinibehn, Gopipura, Surat.
- (2) A postcard to Lala Mohanlal, M.L.C., Simla.
- (3) A postcard to Shri Maharaj Raghavdasji, Baroda.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 618 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 23rd July 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government letter, Home Department (Political), No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith,

for favour of disposal, three letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to the following persons :

- (1) A postcard to Shrimati Rohinibehn, Gopipura, Surat.
- (2) A postcard to Lala Mohanlal, M.L.C., Simla.
- (3) A postcard to Shri Maharaj Raghavdasji, Baroda.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 4996
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 23rd July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 618, dated the 23rd instant, I am directed to return herewith the two postcards written by Mr. Gandhi to Shrimati Rohinibehn, Surat, and Lala Mohanlal, M.L.C., Simla, and to state that Government see no objection to their being allowed to go on.

2. I am to add that the third postcard, addressed to Shri Maharaj Raghavdasji, Baroda, has been forwarded for translation to the Oriental Translator to Government and that a further communication will be made to you in due course regarding its disposal.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 623 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 25th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with accompaniment forwarded with compliments for further disposal with reference to his No. 6482, dated 23rd July 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5032

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 26th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In continuation of Government letter No. S.D. 4996, dated the 23rd instant, I am directed to return herewith the postcard written by Mr. Gandhi to Shri Maharaj Raghavdasji, Baroda, and to state that Government see no objection to its being allowed to go on.

2. A translation of the postcard prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government is enclosed for your information.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 651 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 27th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with accompaniments forwarded with compliments for further disposal in continuation of this office No. 623, dated 25th July 1932.

(Sd.).....,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
for Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6182 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 13th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith seven letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 569 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 15th July 1932

To

The Oriental Translator to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith five letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to request the favour of returning them with their translation into English as usual.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 571 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 15th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith a letter for delivery to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

The remaining five letters have been forwarded to the Oriental Translator to Government, Bombay, and will be returned to you when received.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C/79 of 1932
ORIENTAL TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE
Secretariat, Bombay, 27th July 1932

From

Abdul Kadir Muhammad Hussain, Esquire, J.P.,
Oriental Translator to Government;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith the five letters intended for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi received with your Confidential No. 569, dated 15th July 1932 together with their translation into English.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) A. K. MUHAMMAD HUSSAIN,
Oriental Translator to Government.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 668 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 28th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

In continuation of this office Confidential No. 571, dated 15th July 1932, I have the honour to return herewith, for favour of disposal, five letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

English translation of all the letters is herewith enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)..... ,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6681 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 28th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a telegram addressed by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to G. S. Bajpai, Simla, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 663 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 28th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, a telegram addressed by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to G. S. Bajpai, Simla.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5079
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 28th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the telegram addressed by Mr. Gandhi to Mr. G. S. Bajpai, Simla, which was received with your letter No. 663 of today's date, I am directed to inform you that it may be allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.
No. 676 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 28th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy together with the telegram forwarded with compliments for further disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 6681, dated 28th July 1932.

(Sd.)..... ,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
for Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.
No. 6429 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 21st July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your No. 223 (Confl.), dated 17th March 1932, I have the honour to state that State prisoner M. K. Gandhi requests to have an interview with 'B' class prisoners (1) Jamnadas Dwarkadas, (2) S. A. Brelvi, and (3) G. B. Deshpande.

Orders are solicited whether his request can be granted.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 607 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd July 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Secretary, Home Department (Special), with reference to Government letter No. S.D. 2357, dated the 16th March 1932.

If granted I consider the interview should take place with Mr. Gandhi alone and be held in the Superintendent's office. Discussion of matters relating to other Jails or Jail routine or discipline should not be permitted.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5060

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 28th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 607, dated the 22nd instant, I am directed to inform you that Mr. Gandhi may be allowed to interview the

three prisoners Jamnadas Dwarkadas, Syed Abdulla Brelvi and Gangadhar Balkrishna Deshpande, on the conditions suggested by you.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 675 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 28th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information and guidance with reference to his Confidential letter No. 6429, dated 21st July 1932. The interview should be granted on the following conditions :

- (1) It should take place with Mr. Gandhi alone.
- (2) It should be held in the Superintendent's office.
- (3) Discussion of matters relating politics and to other Jails or Jail routine or discipline should not be permitted.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6732 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 29th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from the Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour

to send herewith two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

1. A letter to Mrs. Nargis Captain, Bombay.
2. A postcard to Nirmala, at Bombay.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 677 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 29th July 1932

R. W. C.

These letters are now to be censored by you and no longer submitted to Government.
Orders are being officially issued separately.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

No. 6823 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 1st August 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 682, dated 29th July 1932

I am directed to inform you that Government do not consider it necessary any longer to censor letters etc. from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and have ordered that the procedure previously in force should be resumed namely that all correspondence will be censored by the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, who will refer only doubtful cases to Government for orders.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy to Secretary, Home Department (Special).

This action was confirmed by Government *vide* No. S.D. 5257, dated 9th August 1932.

Confidential letter No. 6599, dated 26th July 1932, from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, to the Inspector-General of Prisons, Poona.

No. 1133, 26th July 1932

I have the honour to state that Dr. M. A. Ansari (from Delhi) wants to have an interview with State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and ' B ' class prisoner Syed Abdulla Brelvi. Orders are solicited whether he should be allowed an interview with the two prisoners.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 646 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 26th July 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Secretary, Home Department (Special), for favour of orders.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons, '
Bombay Presidency.

1, DARYAGANJ

Delhi, July 23, 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Central Jail, Yeravda.

Sir,

I write to request you for permission to interview *Mahatma Gandhi* who is detained in the Yeravda Jail. I am sailing for Europe from Bombay on August 11, and can come to Poona for the interview either on the 8th or 9th August, preferably, so far as I am concerned, on 9th August.

I am enclosing herewith a stamped telegram form so that you may be able to inform me of the date decided upon by you. My address for the purposes of the telegram would be :

Delhi upto 1st August,

Aurangabad (Deccan) C/o Nawab, Raza Nawaz Jang upto August 5, and

Hydarabad (Deccan), C/o Nawab Asghar Yar Jang, Saifabad, on

August 6 and 7.

But I should be particularly obliged to receive your reply here before the 1st of August, if possible.

I also request you very kindly to allow me an interview on the same date with *Mr, Syed Abdulla Brelvi*, Political prisoner from Bombay.

Thanking you in anticipation.

I am,

Truly yours,

(Sd.) M. A. ANSARI

No. 6599 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

Poona, 26th July 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Inspector-General of Prisons, Poona, for favour of orders.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6543 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 25th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from the Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

1. A letter to Kaka (Dattatraya) Kalelkar, Belgaum Central Prison.
2. A letter to Narayandas Gandhi, Sabarmati Ashram.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 639 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 25th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department, letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and addressed to the following persons :

1. A letter to Kaka (D.) Kalelkar, Belgaum Central Prison.
2. A letter to Narayandas Gandhi, Sabarmati Ashram.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6592 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 26th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from the Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith eight letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

1. A letter to H. S. L. Polak, Esquire, London.
2. A letter to Shrimati Rehanabehn, C/o Abbas Saheb, Baroda.
3. A letter to Mr. Mathuradas Trikumji, Belgaum Jail.
4. A postcard to Taramati Mathuradas, Bombay.

5. A postcard to Professor John S. Hoyland, Birmingham.
6. A postcard to Devdas Gandhi, Gorakhpur Prison.
7. A postcard to Ramniklal Shah, Bombay.
8. A postcard to Shrimati Mirabai, Benares.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 645 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 26th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department, letter No. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, eight letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and addressed to the following persons—

1. A letter to H. S. L. Polak, Esquire, London.
2. A letter to Shrimati Rehanabehn, C/o Abbas Saheb, Baroda.
3. A letter to Mr. Mathuradas Trikumji, Belgaum Jail.
4. A postcard to Taramati Mathuradas, Bombay.
5. A postcard to Professor John S. Hoyland, Birmingham.
6. A postcard to Devdas Gandhi, Gorakhpur Prison.
7. A postcard to Ramniklal Shah, Bombay.
8. A postcard to Shrimati Mirabai, Benares.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5047
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 27th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 645, dated the 26th instant, I am directed to return herewith the postcards addressed by Mr. Gandhi to

1. Shri Taramati Mathuradas, Bombay.
2. Prof. John S. Hoyland, Birmingham
3. Devdas Gandhi, Gorakhpur
4. Ramniklal Vimbashi Shah, Bombay.
5. Shri Mirabai, Benares

the marginally noted
five persons, and to state
that Government see no
objection to their being
allowed to go on.

2. I am to add that a further communication
will be made to you in due course as regards the disposal of the remaining three letters.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 667 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 28th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with accompaniments forwarded with compliments for further disposal with reference to his confidential No. 6592, dated 26th July 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5064
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 28th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In continuation of Government letter No. S.D. 5047, dated the 27th instant, I am directed to return herewith the letter written by Mr. Gandhi to Mr. H. S. L. Polak, London, and to state that it may be allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 673 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 28th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal in continuation of this office No. 667, dated 28th July 1932.

Letter addressed to Mr. H. S. L. Polak, London, is herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6641 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated the 27th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from the Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith four letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

1. A letter to Hiralal Amritlal Shah, Bombay.
2. A letter to Subbiah, Tiruppur, South India.
3. A letter to Shrimati Serenbai Jeejeebhoy, Bombay.
4. A letter to C. Rajagopalachari, Tiruchengodu.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 661 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 27th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department, Confidential letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, four letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the following persons :

1. A letter to Hiralal Amritlal Shah, Bombay.
2. A letter to Subbiah, Tiruppur, South India.

3. A letter to Shrimati Serenbai Jeejeebhoy, Bombay.
4. A letter to C. Rajagopalachari, Tiruchengodu.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5065
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 28th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 661, dated the 27th instant, I am directed to return herewith the two letters addressed by Mr. Gandhi to Shrimati Serenbai Jeejeebhoy, Bombay, and C. Rajagopalachari, Tiruchengodu, and to state that they may be allowed to go on.

2. I am to add that the remaining two letters have been forwarded for translation to the Oriental Translator to Government and that a further communication will be made to you in due course regarding their disposal.

I have the honour to be, .
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 674 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 26th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for further disposal with reference to his Confidential No. 6641, dated the 27th July 1932.

The two letters addressed to Shrimati Serenbai Jeejeebhoy, Bombay and C. Rajagopalachari are herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6680 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 28th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, from the Government of Bombay, Home Department (Political), I have the honour to send herewith seven letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, for favour of disposal—

1. A letter to Harjivan Kotak, Srinagar.
2. A letter to Shrimati Khurshedbai Naoroji (a prisoner in Female Jail, Lahore).
3. A postcard to Venkat Ratnam, Masulipattam.
4. A postcard to Radhabahen Gandhi, Devlali.
5. A postcard to Shrimati Mirabai, Benares.
6. A postcard to Shrimati Kasturba Gandhi, Prisoner, Sabarmati Prison.
7. A postcard to Shrimati Rukmini, C/o Banarsidas, Benares City.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 664 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 28th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Government, Home Department, Confidential letter No. S.D. 4594, dated 30th June 1932, I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of disposal, seven letters written by the State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to the following persons :

1. A letter to Harjivan Kotak, Srinagar.
2. A letter to Shrimati Khurshedbai Naoroji (a prisoner in Female Jail, Lahore).
3. A postcard to Venkat Ratnam, Masulipattam.
4. A postcard to Radhabahen Gandhi, Devlali.
5. A postcard to Shrimati Mirabai, Benares.
6. A postcard to Shrimati Kasturba Gandhi, Prisoner, Sabarmati Prison.
7. A postcard to Shrimati Rukmini, C/o Banarsidas, Benares City.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D.' 5082

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 28th July 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 664, dated the 28th July 1932, I am

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1. | A letter to Shrimati Khurshedbai Naoroji
(a prisoner in Female Jail, Lahore) | directed to return here- |
| 2. | A postcard to Venkat Ratnam, Masulipattarn. | with the letters and post- |
| 3. | A postcard to Radhabahen Gandhi, Devlali. | cards addressed by Mr. |
| 4. | A postcard to Shrimati Mirabai, Benares. | Gandhi to the persons |
| 5. | A postcard to Shrimati Kasturba Gandhi,
Prisoner, Sabarmati Prison. | named in the margin and |
| 6. | A postcard to Shrimati Rukmini, C/o
Banarsidas, Benares City. | to say that they may be
allowed to go on. |

2. Orders regarding the disposal of the letter to Harjivan Kotak, Srinagar, will be communicated later.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 680 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 29th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for further disposal with reference to his confidential letter No. 6680, dated 28th July 1932.

Six letters (one letter and five postcards) are herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

This is a further letter written by Mr. Gandhi in amplification of his previous letter of the 9th instant, on the subject of the recent revision by Government

of their orders relative to the censorship of his correspondence which was disposed of by Government letter No. S.D. 4920, dated 19th July 1932.

2. In his present letter, Mr. Gandhi raises the following questions :

" (1) What are exactly the revised instructions about my correspondence ?

(2) How long shall I have to wait before I receive my letters and before what I write is posted ?

(3) Shall I continue to receive back those letters which may be rejected and as before be given the reasons ?

(4) Will the letters and parcels withheld from me be treated as my property and cared for and delivered to me whenever I may be discharged ? "

Orders have already issued with reference to (1) and the second part of (2). The first part of (2) does not arise as the revision of the previous orders does not affect the procedure which has been followed all along to in-coming letters.

As regards (3), obviously there can be no objection to returning to Mr. Gandhi those of his letters which are not passed by Government but it seems that it would not be desirable or necessary to give him reasons for the rejection of a letter. It should be sufficient if the passage or passages which make a letter objectionable were pointed out to him.

With regard to (4), apparently the letters etc., which are withheld from Mr. Gandhi could not be handed over to him on his release, as many of them might be of such an objectionable nature as to make it most undesirable that they should be in his possession even after his release. It seems, therefore, that Mr. Gandhi may be informed that Government cannot give any such assurance as is implied by his query. In order, however, to ensure that this procedure will be in uniformity with that followed on the last occasion of Mr. Gandhi's internment, perhaps it would be just as well to ascertain from the I. G. of Prisons what was done with the withheld correspondence when Mr. Gandhi was released on the last occasion.

3. If approved therefore, these papers may be referred u.o. to the I. G. of Prisons with reference to the concluding portion of the last sub-para, above.

Refer to I. G. of Prisons.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE
21st July 1932

U.O.R. to I. G. of Prisons, No. S.D. 4957, dated 21st July 1932.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 599 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd July 1932

MEMORANDUM

The Superintendent is requested to state how the letters for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi that were withheld were ultimately disposed of when last he was interned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6529 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 25th July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your No. 599 (Confl), dated 22nd July 1932, I have the honour to state that during the last internment, I understand, some letters were withheld and handed over to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi on release, and some were destroyed. Perhaps Mr. Quinn will be able to give more definite information on the subject.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 636 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 25th July 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Visapur Temporary Prison.
Copies forwarded with compliments for favour of remarks.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 2620 of 1932
TEMPORARY PRISON OFFICE
Visapur, July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Visapur Temporary Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your Confidential No. 599, dated 22nd July 1932, I have the honour to state that the letters for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, that were withheld during his internment, were handed over to him on release, together with some books and magazines. Other letters, papers, pamphlets and magazines were destroyed after inspection by the Superintendent.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) P. L. O. QUINN,

Superintendent,

Visapur Temporary Prison.

Below unofficial reference No. S.D. 4957 dated 21st July 1932 from
Government in the Home Department, Poona.

On the last occasion certain letters, pamphlets and magazines which were considered by the Superintendent to be objectionable were destroyed.

The remainder were handed over to the State prisoner on his release.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

Confl., U.O.R. No. 666, dated 28th July 1932.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 653 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 27th July 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to me for information and any orders Government may deem necessary.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

This may be returned to the I. G. of Prisons. He will take the action agreed upon.

(Sd.).....

U.O.R. to I. G. of Prisons No. S.D. 5081, dated 28th July 1932.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

24th July 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

Since writing to you about my correspondence, Major Bhandari has showed me the Government's letter to you on the subject.

I must confess that the letter has come upon me as a shock. It betrays, if I understand it rightly, want of confidence in Indian officials as a class and naturally therefore a disregard of the great languages of the country spoken by the millions of its inhabitants. The consequences of the policy are disastrous for those who have to suffer from it. Those who do not know English and cannot afford to pay for English assistance or who are too proud to avail themselves of it are at once put under a disadvantage. My own case is an instance in point. A friend who has visited my ailing son in the Gorakhpur

Central Jail tells me that he is anxiously awaiting my letter. I did write to him. But he had not got the letter at the time the friend wrote. My son knows English but we have never written to each other in English. My wife complains of the absence of my letters. She does not know English. I do not know what happens to her letters to me and mine to her. In my humble opinion the principal languages of India are entitled to as much status at least as English, if not a greater.

It hurts me to think that no Indian officials knowing the respective languages are considered fit or trustworthy enough to decide whether letters written in Gujarati or Hindi or Urdu do or do not come within the passable limits. I have already in my letter of 22nd instant inquired if I have unwittingly given cause for the extraordinary scrutiny of my letters.

The revised orders of the Government therefore by implication seem to take away the liberty they have given me for letter writing.

Alike therefore for grounds of reason and sentiment would invite Government to reconsider their decision and so arrange as to ensure for my correspondence in the vernaculars the same quick dispatch they promise for the English, if they wholeheartedly desire that I should continue to write letters as I have done hitherto.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 682 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 29th July 1932

MEMORANDUM

I am directed to inform you that Government do not consider it necessary any longer to censor letters etc. from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and have ordered that the procedure previously in force should be resumed namely that all correspondence will be censored by the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, who will refer only doubtful cases to Government for orders.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 683 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 28th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Special), Poona.
Copy forwarded with compliments for information.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6489 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 23rd July 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 640 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 25th July 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Special), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to me for. favour of any action Government may deem necessary.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

22nd July 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

I revert to my letter of 13th instant. My son at Gorakhpur has had a relapse. I have written to him a letter that should cheer him. But I have no notion when it will be passed and sent to him. Another to a friend in the Lahore Jail. She has undergone an operation. A third to the sister of the missing airman Jeejeebhoy. Fourth to Shrimati Mirabai Slade who is down with fever at Benares. And I am writing today a postcard to a girl sending her and her people condolences on a family bereavement. All these letters to me of value should surely be sent at once or not at all. But from the manner in which the Ashram post is held up how can I hope that the foregoing letters will be passed soon ? I have a postcard from the Ashram telling me that my letter of 5th July was received there on 20th instant! The letters written on the 12th and 19th July have still evidently not been sent. They contain important instructions about ailing inmates and others in distress that has nothing to do with political matters. If the Government do not wish to withdraw their orders conveyed to me about my letters, I should be assured of their quick despatch. This delay in sending my letters to their destination seems to me to be highly unjust to me and hardly becoming for the Government. I have willingly broken no rule about my correspondence. On the contrary I have tried to be meticulously correct in carrying out their instructions. I know no reason for this vexatious change in the disposition of my correspondence.

Could you please forward this to the Government and ascertain their wishes in the matter ?

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 687 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 1st August 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Special), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith for favour of orders a telegram addressed by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Mrs. Kamala Nehru, Allahbad.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

U.O.R. to I. G. of Prisons No. S.D. 5141, dated 1st August 1932.

Returned detaching the telegram.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

U.O.R. No. 704, dated 2nd August 1932.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6817 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 1st August 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a telegram addressed by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Mrs. Kamala Nehru, Allahabad, for orders.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 699 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 2nd August 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your Confidential letter No. 6817, dated 1st August 1932, I have the honour to return herewith the telegram referred to therein and to state that it may be allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5152
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 2nd August 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the two letters * written by Mr. Gandhi which were received with your letter No. 639, dated the 25th July 1932, I am directed to inform you that Government see no objection to their being allowed to go on.

2. Translations of the letters prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government are enclosed for your information.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

* Addressed to —

(1) Kaka D. Kalelkar, Belgaum Central Prison.

(2) Narayandas Gandhi, Sabarmati Ashram (containing besides 18 other letters and notes intended for the inmates of the Sabarmati Ashram).

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 709 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 3rd August 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with accompaniments forwarded with compliments for further disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 6543, dated 25th July 1932.

(Sd.)..... ,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 6899 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 3rd August 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, from Dr. M. A. Ansari and to enquire whether the same may be given to him.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 707 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 3rd August 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi from Dr. M. A. Ansari.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E.E.DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. SD. 5191

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 4th August 1932

CONFIDENTIAL

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 707, dated the 3rd instant, I am directed to return herewith the letter from Dr. M. A. Ansari to Mr. Gandhi and to state that it may be delivered.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 712 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 5th August 1932

To

The Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with accompaniments forwarded with compliments for further disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 6899, dated 2nd/3rd August 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5149

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 2nd August 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 646, dated the 26th ultimo, I am directed by the Governor in Council to inform you that Dr. M. A. Ansari should be refused permission to interview Mr. M. K. Gandhi and prisoner Syed Abdulla Brelvi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 706 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, .3rd August 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information and action with reference to his Confidential No. 6599, dated 26th July 1932.

This has already been communicated by telephone.

(Sd.) E.E.DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Dr. Ansari,
C/o Subedar, Aurangabad,
Regret. Interview Cannot Be Granted
Jail.

(Sd.),

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Dr. Ansari
C/o Justice Asgharyar Jung,
Saifabad, Hyderabad Deccan
Regret. Interview Cannot Be Granted

(Sd.).....
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

TELEGRAM

To
The Superintendent,
Central Jail, Poona.

Delhi.

Date—1, Hours—13, minutes—10 Received Hours—16, minutes—12 Continuation my letter twenty-third July requesting interview with Mahatmaji and Brelvi on eighth or ninth August am still awaiting reply stop Please wire care Subedar Aurangabad till fifth or care Justice Asgharyar Jung, Saifabad Hyderabad Deccan till seventh.

—Ansari
Delhi

CONFIDENTIAL

No 6939 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 4th August 1932

From
The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To
The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a telegram addressed by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Chhaganlal Mehta, Rangoon, for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 710 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 4th August 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, a telegram addressed by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Chhaganlal Mehta, Rangoon.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5192
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 4th August 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the telegram addressed by Mr. Gandhi to Chhaganlal Mehta, Rangoon, which was received with your letter No. 710 of today's date, I am directed to inform you that it may be allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 713 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 5th August 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with telegram forwarded with compliments for further disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 6937, dated 4th August 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5194
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 4th August 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. S.D. 5064, dated the 28th July 1932,

1. Rehanabehn, C/o Abbas Saheb, Baroda.
2. Mathuradas Tricumji, Prisoner, Central Jail, Belgaum.

I am directed to return
herewith the letters, add-
ressed by Mr. Gandhi to
the persons named in the

margin, and to say that they may be allowed to go on.

2. Translations of the letters in vernacular prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government are enclosed for your information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 714 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 5th August 1932.

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with accompaniments, forwarded with compliments for further disposal, in continuation of this office Confidential No. 673, dated the 28th July 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5195

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 4th August 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. S.D. 5065, dated the 28th July 1932,

1. Subbiah, Tiruppur (South India).
2. Hiralal Amritlal Shah, Bombay.

I am directed to return
herewith the letters add-
ressed by Mr. Gandhi
to the persons named in the margin, and to

say that they may be allowed to go on.

2. Translations of the letters in vernacular prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government are enclosed for your information.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 715 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 5th August 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with accompaniment, forwarded with compliments for further disposal, in continuation of this office Confidential No. 674, dated 28th July 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5202
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 5th August 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. S.D. 5082, dated the 28th July 1932, I am directed to return herewith the letter addressed by Mr. Gandhi to Harjivan Kotak, Srinagar, and to state that it may be allowed to go on.

2. A translation of the letter prepared by the Oriental Translator to Government is enclosed for your information.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 719 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 5th August 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy with accompaniments, forwarded with compliments for further disposal, in continuation of this office Confidential No. 680, dated 29th July 1932.

(Sd.)..... ,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

for Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

SECRET

No. S.D. 5257

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona; 9th August 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 683, dated the 29th July 1932, I am directed to inform you that Government confirm the orders issued by you to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, in your memorandum No. 682 of the same date, whereby all correspondence to and from Mr. Gandhi will in future be censored by the Superintendent of the Prison, a reference being made to Government in doubtful cases. Government letter No. S.D. 4594, dated the 30th June 1932, should be treated as cancelled and the orders contained in paragraph 3 of Government letter No. S.D. 310, dated the 16th January 1932, will continue in force subject to the substitution of the words " In doubtful cases a reference should be made to Government" for the words " In doubtful cases a reference should be made to the District Magistrate, Poona" occurring in lines 11 and 12 of that paragraph.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 727 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 10th August 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Copy forwarded with compliments for information and guidance with reference to the correspondence ending with this office Confidential No. 508, dated 1st July 1932.

(Sd.) E.E.DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7123 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 10th August 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

10th August 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

Referring to my letter of the 22nd and 24th ultimo and your kind reply, I have not since heard from you and Kaka Kalelkar who you said was to be permitted to write to me about his health. I would appreciate early attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7122 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 10th August 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Sir Akabar Hydari for information and orders.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 730 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS
Bombay Presidency
Poona, 11th August 1932

Dear Mr. Gandhi,

I have ascertained from Belgaum that the Superintendent has communicated to Kalelkar that he has my permission to write to you. Your letter to him has also been sent on—so I imagine you should be hearing from him shortly.

I am arranging for his transfer in the near future to another prison where the climate will suit him better than that of Belgaum apparently does in the monsoon.

There is really nothing for you to be anxious about. He has had a little rheumatism but otherwise his health is much the same as it was previously.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

To

Mr. M. K. Gandhi,
Yeravda.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 729 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 11th August 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Sir Akbar Hydari of Hyderabad (Deccan).

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5309

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 12th August 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 729, dated the 11th August 1932, I am directed to return herewith the letter addressed by Mr. Gandhi to Sir Akbar Hydari of Hyderabad (Deccan), and to say that it may be allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 739 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 13th August 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, for disposal with reference to his Confidential No. 7122, dated 10th August 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. 7292 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

Poona, 15th August 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

From

A. R. Tijaray, Esquire,
Principal, Tilak Vidyalaya, Nagpur,
C/o Prof. D. S. Deshpande, M.Sc,
167, Sardargriha, Top Floor,
Near Crawford Market, Bombay ;

To

The Superintendent,
Central Jail, Yeravda, Poona.

(Through : The Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Home Department, Bombay.)
Bombay, dated the 12th August 1932

Sir,

I have the honour to state that I arrived here in Bombay on Monday the 8th instant from the Continent where I had been to get expert treatment for my eyes at Vienna. I have been in correspondence with Mahatma Gandhi, while at Vienna, and would desire to see him. I shall feel therefore very much obliged if you will kindly permit me to have an interview with him

in the Central Jail and inform me the time and the day when I can have the said interview with him.
Thanking you for an early reply.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) A. R. TIJARAY

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5335
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 13th August 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a letter addressed to Mr. Gandhi by Miss F. M. Barr of Karim Nagar, Hyderabad State, which was received through the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, and to state that Government see no objection to its being delivered.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 740 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 16th August 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7360 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
Poona, 17th August 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5372
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 16th August 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

In forwarding herewith a letter addressed to you from Bombay by Mr. A. R. Tijaray, the Principal of the Tilak Vidyalaya, Nagpur, I am directed to inform you that he should be refused an interview with Mr. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5373
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 16th August 1932

Copy together with a copy of a letter from Mr. Tijaray, forwarded with compliments to the Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

By order of the Governor in Council,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

No. 7417 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 18th August 1932

MEMORANDUM

With reference to his letter dated 12th August 1932, Mr. A. R. Tijaray is informed that the interview asked for in the above quoted letter, cannot be granted.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7361 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 17th August 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Verrier Elwin, Esquire, and to enquire whether the letter may be allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 747 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 17th August 1932

R. W. C.

The letter may be allowed to go on.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7403 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
Poona, 18th August 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7362 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 17th August 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith two letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to enquire whether they may be delivered to the addressee.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 746 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 17th August 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith two letters received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to enquire whether they may be delivered to the addressee.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7407 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 18th August 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith two letters written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, one to you and another to the Prime Minister.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 758 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 19th August 1932

R. W. C.

State prisoner M. K. Gandhi should be informed that his letter addressed to the Prime Minister was forwarded to Government for disposal on the 18th instant.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

No. 7507 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 22nd August 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

No. S.D. 5393 '
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 18th August 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 746, dated the 17th instant, I am directed to return herewith the two letters intended for Mr. Gandhi and to state that Government see no objection to their being delivered.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 757 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 19th August 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, for favour of disposal.

With reference to his Confidential letter No. 7362, dated 17th August 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

No. 7508 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 22nd August 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.
No. R.E.V.

Surat, 19th August 1932

From

T. T. Kothavala, Esquire, M.A.,
Collector of Surat;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith notices under section 153, Land Revenue Code, which may please be delivered to the defaulters shown in the notices, who are undergoing terms of imprisonment in various jails. The duplicate copies may please be returned after obtaining thereon signatures of the persons concerned in token of their having received a copy of the notice.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.)..... ,
for Collector of Surat.

Yeravda Central Prison Office.

In. No. 6976, dated 24th August 1932.

No. 12900 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 23rd August 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of necessary action.

(Sd.) S. R. CHAUBAL,
Personal Assistant,
for Inspector-General of Prisons.

Please return.

Returned with compliments duly served.

No. 7949 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 1st September 1932

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 15002 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 1st October 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Collector of Surat,
Surat.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. R.E.V., dated 19th August 1932, I have the honour to return herewith two notices—one duly served on Vallabhbhai Patel and the other unserved as it is not known where the prisoner Narsinha Prasad is at present confined.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) S. R. CHAUBAL,
Personal Assistant,
for Inspector-General of Prisons.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7151 of 1932
BELGAUM CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 21st August 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Central Prison, Belgaum ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I beg to forward herewith a letter from prisoner No. 9417 D. B. Kalelkar addressed to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, the censoring as given by

Mr. Jategaonkar, Junior Jailor, is attached. Prisoner Kalelkar delayed writing, requesting that he was expecting a letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, and the enclosed letter was written after the receipt of letter from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) F. B. PLUNKETT,
Superintendent,
Belgaum Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 770 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 23rd August 1932

Returned with compliments.

The letter addressed to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi may be sent on.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniment.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7267 of 1932
BELGAUM CENTRAL PRISON
25th August 1932

Noted and returned with compliments, the letter to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi has been forwarded.

(Sd.) F. B. PLUNKETT,
Superintendent,
Belgaum Central Prison.

No. 3039 of 1932
TEMPORARY PRISON OFFICE
Visapur, 25th August 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Visapur Temporary Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by prisoner (No. 986 V.P.P.) Fulchand Bapuji Shah to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) P. L. O. QUINN,

Superintendent,

Visapur Temporary Prison.

No. 13123 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 27th August 1932

To

The Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal *after being censored at Yeravda Central Prison.*

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniment.

No. 7796 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

Poona, 29th August 1932

Noted and returned with compliments retaining the accompaniment.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7704 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 26th August 1932

From

The Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your Confidential Memo. No. 749, dated 17th August 1932, I have the honour to send herewith a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, from the members of the Delegation mentioned in the above Memo., and to enquire whether the same should be handed over to the addressees.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7721 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 26th August 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith following two papers received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, and to enquire whether the same be delivered to him :

1. Balance Sheet of "Hindi Prachar Press, Madras ".
2. Account of manufacture and sale of ' Khadi' in different provinces.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 777 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 27th August 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith the following two papers received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to enquire whether the same should be delivered to him :

1. Balance Sheet of "Hindi Prachar Press, Madras".
2. Account of manufacture and sale of ' Khadi' in different provinces.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5558

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 28th August 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the letter addressed to Mr. Gandhi by the members of the India League Delegation, I am directed to inform you that it may be delivered.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

No. 783 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 29th August 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, for disposal.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Please return this
endorsement duly.

No. 7866 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 30th August 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Dear Mahatma Gandhi,

This is a little message of greeting and love from the four of us from the India League in England. We have much happy memories of the time when you and Mrs. Naidu and Mr. Desai met and talked with us in London. The body of friends you met then has kept together and has sent us to India to see things for ourselves and for them and for our work for India in England. As we are not allowed to see you, we send to you and other friends in jail our warmest greetings.

(Sd.) ELLEN WILKINSON

(Sd.) MONICA WHATELY

(Sd.) V. KRISHNA MENON

(Sd.) L. MATTERS

Y. C. P.

29th August 1932

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5576

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 29th August 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 777, dated the 27th instant, I am

1. Balance sheet of "Hindi Prachar Press " Madras,
2. Account of manufacture and sale of Khadi in different Provinces.

directed to return here-
with the papers noted in
the margin and to state
that they may be delivered to

Mr. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 786 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 30th August 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal with reference to his confidential letter No. 7721, dated 26th August 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency

Please return

No. 7954 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 1st September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7867 of 1932,
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 30th August 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, addressed to you.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 7865 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 30th August 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith two letters, written in Hindi, received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to enquire whether they may be delivered to him. English translation of the letters is attached hereto.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 789 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 31st August 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith for favour of orders, two letters written in Hindi received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

English translation of both the letters is herewith enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5659
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 2nd September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 789, dated the 31st August 1932, I am directed to return herewith the two letters in Hindi intended for Mr. Gandhi and to say that they may be delivered.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department,

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 792 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 2nd September 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 7865, dated 30th August 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniments.

No. 8062 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 3rd September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments. The English translation sent with the original letter have not been received. It may kindly be returned.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5680

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 3rd September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In forwarding herewith a letter addressed to Mr. Gandhi by Mr. Sant Ram, L.M.P., Registered Medical Practitioner, Lahore, which was received through the Personal Assistant to the Director, Intelligence Bureau of the

Home Department, Government of India, I am directed to inform you that it may be delivered to the addressee.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 793 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 4th September 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.
Forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniment.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8113 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 5th September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8063 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 3rd September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi from Mr. C. F. Andrews and to enquire whether the same should be delivered to him.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 795 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 4th September 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, CLE., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Special), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi from Mr. C. F. Andrews.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col. I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8108 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 5th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith following books received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to enquire whether they may be given to him :

1. " Gandhi the Apostle ".
2. " Peshawar ".
3. " The Story of Peace Negotiations ".
4. " The Round Table Conference ".
5. " Non-Violent Revolution ".
6. Paper "The Springfield Union".

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 797 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 7th September 1932

R. W. C.

The books should all be withheld.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return

No. 8257 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
8th September 1932

R. W. C. noted.

The books have not been received in this office.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 803 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 8th September 1932

R.W.C.

The books have been retained in this office.

Please return

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Below No. 803 Confidential, dated 8th September 1932, from the Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, Poona.

No. 8314 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 9th September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 794 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 4th September 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to bring to your notice that the English translation of the two letters sent along with this office Confidential letter No. 789, dated the 31st August 1932, has not been received with Home Department Confidential

letter No. S.D. 5659, dated 2nd September 1932, I would therefore request the favour of Government being pleased to return the same to this office.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8170 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 6th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi from Agatha Harrison, 2 Cranbourne Court, Albert Bridge Road, S.W. 11, and to enquire whether the same should be delivered to him.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5726
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 7th September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 795, dated the 4th instant, I am directed to return herewith the letter addressed to Mr. Gandhi by Mr. C. F. Andrews, and to say that it may be delivered.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 811 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 9th September 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 8063, dated 3rd September 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniment.

No. 8456 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 12th September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments retaining the accompaniment.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5730
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 7th September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clce, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

As requested in your letter No., 794, dated the 4th instant, I am directed to forward herewith the English translations of the two Hindi letters intended for Mr. Gandhi which were received with your letter No. 789, dated the 31st August 1932.

It is regretted that, owing to a misapprehension on the part of my office, the translations were not returned to you with my letter No. S.D. 5659 of the 2nd instant.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 812 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 9th September 1932

MEMORANDUM

Reference your confidential No. 8062, dated 3rd September 1932.

The English translations of the two Hindi letters intended for Mr. M. K. Gandhi are herewith returned.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

To

The Superintendent;
Yeravda Central Prison.

Extract from a letter dated the 27th August 1932, from Madhobhai Varad, to Kanjibhai Patel, B.E., C/o D. O. Popatlal, Napier Road, Karachi.

Murarjibhai of Shialdla had met Bapuji in Yeravda Jail. He conversed with him for about an hour and a quarter. The Superintendent was absent at that time, the conversation was all about Bardoli, Gandhiji said :

" Khushalbhai (Secy.) made a mistake. How did cultivators commit such a blunder. (Bapuji had no idea how money was collected from cultivators. This time the nose of the Sardar has been cut. It aggrieved me much but there is no other alternative for your people than to collect about 200 cultivators to save the honours of Bardoli. If village like Ras is organised for action, it will be better. This fight is not collective but individual one. It will be much better if a few cultivators join hands and face Government with open chest. If they will do so then I will be removed from this place."

There were such talks about Bardoli. You might be aware that Bapuji does not indulge in politics inside the jail but that he broke the principal ' Oath' and conversed with Murarjibhai. Bapuji would have refused to talk about this matter, with any other interviewer. Bapuji must have been very sorry on the behaviour of the cultivators. He is of the opinion that fight will be prolonged.

Copy of a minute by the hon'ble the Home member, dated the 6th September 1932.

How did this interview with ' Bapu' come about ?

Copy of a note by Secretary, Home Department, dated 6th September 1932.

I. G. of Prisons

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

Submitted

In accordance with Secretary's note of 6th September 1932 the foregoing extract may be forwarded U.O. to the I.G. of Prisons for favour of report. He may be requested to treat the papers as strictly Confidential.

U.O.R. No. S.D. 5802/9th September 1932.

I. G. of Prisons

No. 8399 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

10th September 1932

Returned with compliments.

2. Murarjibhai of Shialdla was a prisoner in the Extension Camp. He had an interview with State prisoner M. K. Gandhi according to Confidential No. 223, dated 17th March 1932, from the I. G. of Prisons, Poona, and letter No. S.D. 2649, dated 31st March 1932, from Home Secretary to I. G. of Prisons.

The writer of the letter has told a lie in stating that the Superintendent was absent at that time. No interview has ever taken place except in the presence of the Superintendent. In addition of the Superintendent the Deputy Superintendent and in his absence the Senior Jailor was always present at these interviews. State prisoner Gandhi was permitted these interviews on certain conditions *vide* I. G. Ps. No. 223, dated 17th March 1932, and he has always scrupulously observed them.

I would like to mention in this connection an instance to illustrate my point. Some time ago, Mr. Gandhi was taking interviews, a young widow of 15 came to see him. Suddenly in the middle of the conversation she asked him whether she should join the present C. D. movement, or not. Mr. Gandhi at once told her that if she was going to ask him questions about a subject on which he has given an undertaking not to speak she had better not come to see him again.

In my opinion, the letter under reference is written by some unscrupulous person who does not mind telling lies with a view to gain his object.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Extract from a weekly Confidential report of the District Magistrate, Surat, dated the 6th September 1932.

Those who have returned from jail after serving their term of imprisonment are trying to agitate agriculturists against payment of Land Revenue. A rumour has been spread by some of them that during an interview with Mr. Gandhi he told one of them that he was disappointed in Bardoli as it paid up its assessment and that the Surat District could not produce a single village like Ras in the Kaira District. An attempt will be made to get together about 200 agriculturists who would take oaths against payment of dues.

The situation is being watched.

HOME DEPARTMENT (SPECIAL)

With reference to Secretary's query, it may be noted that an extract 'A'— 'a' from the intercepted letter, together with copies of minute and Secretary's note of 6th September 1932 has been forwarded U.O. to I. G. of Prisons for favour of report.

2. Attention is however invited to the extract from the weekly report of the District Magistrate, Surat, dated 6th September 1932 since received, from which it is clear that if the individual named Murarjibhai had the alleged discussion about Bardoli with Mr. Gandhi, Murarjibhai must at one time have been a prisoner in the Yeravda Central Prison and had an interview

with Mr. Gandhi while he (Murarjibhai) was serving his term of imprisonment. Though Mr. Gandhi now refuses to see visitors from outside, he has not so far is known, given up the privilege which has been allowed him of interviewing other prisoners confined in the prison on the conditions laid down in letter No. S.D. 2357, dated 16th March 1932, as modified by Government letter No. S.D. 2649, dated 31st March 1932.

Ask I. G. of Prisons.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

U.O.R. to I. G. of Prisons in continuation of U.O.R. No. S.D. 5802, dated 9th September 1932, No. S.D. 5835, dated 10th September 1932.

CONFIDENTIAL

Below Unofficial Reference, dated 10th September 1932, from Government in the Home Department (Special), Poona.

Please see endorsement No. 8399, dated 10th September 1932, from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

The Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, assures me that no interview with Mr. Gandhi has been allowed without a Senior Jail Officer being present—and that politics have never been discussed at any such interview.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

U.O.R. No. 817 dated 12th September 1932.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 802 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 8th September 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi from Agatha Harrison, 2 Cran-bourne Court, Albert Bridge Road, S.W. 11.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay- Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5816
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 9th September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 802, dated the 8th instant, I am directed to return herewith the letter addressed to Mr. Gandhi by Miss Agatha Harrison and to say that it may be delivered.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 814 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 10th September 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal with reference to his Confidential letter No. 8170, dated 6th September 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniment.

No. 8562 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 14th September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments retaining the accompaniment.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8169 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 6th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi from Mr. Manohar Dhali, and to enquire whether the same should be delivered to him.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 801 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 8th September 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona. Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi from Mr. Manohar Dhali.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5839
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 10th September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 801, dated the 8th instant, I am directed to return herewith the letter addressed to Mr. Gandhi by Mr. Manohar Dhali of Faridpur, Bengal, and to state that it should be withheld.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

No. 815 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 12th September 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, for disposal in accordance with instructions above.

This has a reference to his Confidential letter No. 8169, dated 6th September 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniment.

No. 8563 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 14th September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments retaining the accompaniment.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

VERY URGENT

CONFIDENTIAL

Shown to H. M. The wire from Rajagopalachari may be delivered to Mr. Gandhi. The request of Mr. Rustum Irani should be refused and there is no need to deliver the telegram sent by him to Gandhi.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

In. No. 1491

15-9-32

No. S.D. 5915

Dated 15th September 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal.

Please return

(Sd.) S. R. CHAUBAL

U.O.R. No. 826, dated 15th September 1932.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8458 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 12th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from Mr. H. K. Hales, received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, and to enquire whether the same should be delivered to the addressee.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 819 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 13th September 1932

From

Lt.-Col. E. E. Doyle, C.I.E., D.S.O., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith for favour of orders a letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi from Mr. H. K. Hales.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt-iCol., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No, S.D. 5909
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 15th September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay; To
The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 819, dated the 13th instant, I am directed to return herewith the letter addressed to Mr. Gandhi by Mr. H. K. Hales of Calcutta, and to inform you that it should be withheld.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 827 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 16th September 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for information and guidance with reference to his Confidential letter No. 8458, dated 12th September 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniment.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8707 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 19th September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments retaining the accompaniment.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5868
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 13th September 1932 From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In forwarding herewith a letter addressed to Mr. Gandhi by Miss F. M. Barr of Karim Nagar, Hyderabad State, received through the Commissioner

of Police, Bombay, I am directed to inform you that it may be delivered to the addressee.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 822 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 14th September 1932

To

The Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniment.

No. 8607 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 16th September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments retaining the accompaniment.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 8611 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, dated 16th September 1932

From

Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith for favour of orders, three telegrams which State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, desires to despatch—

1. Telegram to Jamshed Mehta (Karachi).
2. Telegram to Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru.
3. Telegram to Satish Babu (Sodpur).

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 828 of 1932

Poona, 16th September 1932

R.W.C.

The three telegrams may be despatched as requested.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

Please return retaining the accompaniments.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8623 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, dated 16th September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8620 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 16th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from Mrs. S. Naidu addressed to me. She requests to have an interview with State prisoner M. K. Gandhi. Will you kindly inform me whether her request can be granted?

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 833 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 17th September 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a letter from Mrs. S. Naidu addressed to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison. She asks for an interview with State prisoner M. K. Gandhi. I would therefore request the favour of Government being pleased to issue orders as to whether her request should be granted.

I have the honour to be,

Sir

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E.E.DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8621 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, dated 16th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith two letters and a copy of vernacular paper called 'Dalitbandhu' received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to enquire whether they can be allowed to the addressee—

1. Letter from Mr. P. N. Rajabhoj.
2. Letter from the Secretary to the Fellowship of Reconciliation, London.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8622 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 16th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith two telegrams received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to enquire whether the same should be delivered to him—

1. Telegram from Burdwan Public.
2. Telegram from Cantonment Congress, Bangalore.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 830 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 17th September 1932

Returned with compliments.

The telegrams may be delivered to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniments.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8705 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 19th September 1932

Returned with compliments retaining the accompaniment.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 8651 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, dated 17th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison; To
The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith following seven telegrams received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to enquire whether they may be delivered to him :

1. From Mr. B. F. Bharucha, Bombay.
2. From Mr. Henry, London.
3. From Mr. Govind Radha, Boston.

4. From Mr. Hardwarprasad, Gorakhpur.
5. From Mr. Gurditsing Dara, London.
6. From Mrs. Madeleine Rolland, London.
7. From Mr. Luke Gunnon Blackpool, London.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 831 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 17th September 1932

R. W. C.

These telegrams may be delivered.

I take it you are keeping copies of all telegrams delivered to Mr. Gandhi as requested by me.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniments.

No. 8706 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 19th September 1932

Returned with compliments retaining the accompaniments.

Copies of all telegrams delivered to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi are kept by this office.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 832 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 17th September 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for favour of orders, two letters and a copy of vernacular paper called ' Dalitbandhu' received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi from the following persons :

1. Letter from Mr. P. N. Rajabhoj.
2. Letter from the Secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, London.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E.E.DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5977
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 18th September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 832, dated the 17th instant, I am

1. The General Secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, London.
2. The President and Members of the All-India Depressed Classes Association, Bombay Presidency, Poona Branch.

directed to return here-
with the two letters add-
ressed to Mr. Gandhi by
the persons named in the
margin, and to state that
they may be delivered.

2. As regards the vernacular newspaper ' Dalitbandhu', I am to state that it has been forwarded for review to the Oriental Translator to Government, and that a further communication will be made to you in due course regarding its disposal.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 844 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 19th September 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal as directed by Government with reference to his Confidential letter No. 8621, dated 16th September 1932.

(Sd.) E.E.DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniments.

No. 8745 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 20th September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments, retaining the accompaniments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8713 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 19th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith six telegrams as follows, received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to enquire whether the same may be delivered to him :

1. Bandra—Ramniklal Desai, C/o Gokaldas Tejpal Compound, Vile Parle.
2. Bombay—Dayabhai Ginawala, C/o Servindia.
3. Sgravenhug—An unknown.
4. Calcutta—Professor Jitesh Chandra Guha, Vice-President, Lake Institute and Chairachandra Chatterjee, Secretary, South League and Members.
5. London—Horace Alexander.
6. London—Agatha Harrison.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 839 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 19th September 1932

Returned with compliments.

The above telegrams may be delivered.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniments.

No. 8742 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 20th September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments, retaining the accompaniments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8709 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 19th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison; To
The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a postcard written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Mr. Krishnadas, Calcutta and to enquire whether the same may be allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 840 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 19th September 1932

Returned with compliments.

This may be despatched as desired.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Inspector-General of Prisons.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniments.

No. 8747 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments retaining the accompaniment.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8708 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 19th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith one letter received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to enquire whether it may be delivered to him.

2. Letter from Mr. G. S. Gupta, Drug (C. P.).

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 841 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 19th September 1932,

Returned with compliments.
The letter may be delivered.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return this
endorsement only.

No. 8748 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 20th September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd,) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

BIJAPUR DISTRICT JAIL
16th September 1932

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
(Through Superintendent, Bijapur D. P.).

Dear Sir,

I am forwarding his letter in the hope that under extraordinary circumstances at present existing you will deliver the same to Mahatma Gandhi in Yeravda Jail, after perusing the same.

However if you think that it cannot be delivered to him I shall thank you to return the same to be destroyed by the Superintendent, as the communication is a private one intended for Mahatmaji alone and not for any other publication or communication.

Hoping to be excused for the trouble.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) K. F. NARIMAN,
C. D. Prisoner,
Bijapur Prison.
No. 4808 of 1932
17th September 1932

Passed on with compliments.

(Sd.) C. T. DHURVA,
Superintendent,
Bijapur District Prison.
No. 836 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 18th September 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Secretary to Government, Home Department, for orders.

(Sd.) E.E.DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5985
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 19th September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No. 836, dated the 18th instant, I am directed to return herewith the letter addressed to Mr. Gandhi by K. F. Nariman, Bijapur District Prison, and to state that it may be delivered.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 842 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 19th September 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Returned with compliments for disposal.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency

Please return
retaining the
accompaniment.

No. 8746 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 20th September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments retaining the accompaniments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Letter No. 8596, dated 15th September 1932, from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison to Inspector-General of Prisons, Poona.

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by ' A' class prisoner Mrs. S. Naidu to Dr. Ambedkar, and to enquire whether the same should be allowed to go on.

May go I think.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

Why has permission been given for Mrs. Naidu to see political leaders ?

(Sd.)

I do not think any such permission has been given but ask I. G. Prisons if any special facilities have been allowed to Mrs. Naidu.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

No. 5956

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS

Dated 17th September 1932

No such permission has been given and Mrs. Naidu has not been allowed any special facilities.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

U.G.R. No. 838, dated 18th September 1932, 843, dated 19th September 1932.

Y. C. P.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 5986

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 19th September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In returning herewith the letter from prisoner Mrs. S. Naidu to Dr. Ambedkar, which accompanied the letter No. 8596, dated the 15th September 1932, from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, addressed to you, I am directed to state that it may be allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 843 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 19th September 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.
Forwarded with compliments for disposal.

(Sd.) E.E.DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniment.

No. 8744 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 20th September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments retaining the accompaniments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8726 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 19th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith three telegrams received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to enquire whether the same may be delivered to him—

1. Trivendrum—N. Subrahmanya Iyer.

2. Bangalore—S. M. Michael.
3. Calcutta—Urmila.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 845 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 19th September 1932

Returned with compliments.
They may be delivered.

(Sd.) E.E.DOYLE,
Inspector-General of Prisons.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniments.

No. 8743 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 20th September 1932

Returned with compliments retaining the accompaniments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8727 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 19th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith nine (9) telegrams, received for State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, and to enquire whether they may be delivered to him—

1. Kharakpur—Ramachandran, Secretary.
2. Yeotmal—Jatkar, Vice-President.
3. Rangoon—M. V. Desai.
4. Madras—M. H. Kotiswaram.
5. Bangalore—Secretary, Journalist Association.
6. Faridpur—Lord Jagatbandhus Natichanna.
7. Mohanghat—Down-Trodden.
8. Jabalpur—Nandlal Jamadar Mehtar, President.
9. Rangoon—Atimandhra Service Association.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8741 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 19th September 1932

Returned with compliments.
These may be delivered.

(Sd.) E.E.DOYLE,
Lt-Col, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniments.

No. 8741 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 20th September 1932

Returned with compliments retaining the accompaniments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

No. S.D. 6003

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 19th September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay;

To

P. N. Rajabhoj, Esquire,
President, All India Depressed Classes Association,
Bombay Presidency Branch,
207, Ghorpade Peth, Poona-2.

Sir,

With reference to your letter to the Honourable the Home Member, dated the 18th instant, I am directed to inform you that Government have no objection to a deputation from your Association interviewing Mr. Gandhi.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

No. S.D. 6004

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 19th September 1932

Copy, together with a copy of the letter to which it is a reply, forwarded with compliments for information to the Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency.

By order of the Governor in Council,

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

No. 848 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 20th September 1932

Forwarded with compliments for the information of the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison.

Please return.

(Sd.) E.E.DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8839 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 21st September 1932

Noted and returned with compliments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

Letter No. 8652, dated the 17th September 1932, from the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, to the Inspector-General of Prisons, Poona.

I have the honour to send herewith two postcards written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi and to enquire whether the same should be allowed to go on. In these he has requested to a certain statement sent to you under this office No. 8610, dated 16th September 1932.

No. 835 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 18th September 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Secretary, Home Department (Special), Poona, for favour of orders.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 6011
HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Poona, 20th September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your endorsement No. 835, dated the 18th instant, I am directed to inform you that Mr. Gandhi's

manifesto dated the 16th September 1932 has today been forwarded to the Director of Information for transmission to the Associated Press in Bombay.

2. The accompanying two postcards may accordingly be allowed to go on.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,
for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

No. 850 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 20th September 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, for disposal.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniments.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8838 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 21st September 1932

Returned with compliments retaining the accompaniments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

No. 3448 of 1932

TEMPORARY PRISON OFFICE

Visapur, 20th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Visapur Temporary Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by prisoner Fulchand Bapuji addressed to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi for favour of orders.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) P. L. O. QUINN,
Superintendent,
Visapur Temporary Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 851 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 21st September 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of disposal.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Pradesh.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniments.

No. 8886 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 23rd September 1932

Returned with compliments retaining the accompaniments.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.
Ahmedabad, 21st September 1932

My Dear Clee,

I have just received this letter from leading people in Ahmedabad. Will you please put it before the Hon'ble Member, as soon as possible ?

Yours,
(Sd.) J. MONTEATH

To

J. Monteath, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Commissioner, N. D., Ahmedabad.

Dear Sir,

The situation created by Mahatma Gandhi's resolve to fast until satisfactory solution about the depressed classes question is reached or until death, is a serious one, and his personal welfare is a matter of great anxiety even to those who may be radically differing from his views and his present resolve. It cannot be denied that his personality is one of International importance. The personal regard in which he is held by all sections of the public in India is unique and unrivalled in extent and depth.

As appears from newspaper reports, he has started his fast, and it is essential that, for his personal welfare at such critical juncture, his wife, sons, and other persons who are looked upon by him as his kith and kin should be by his side.

We therefore earnestly request that you will be so good as to request the authorities concerned to make arrangements without delay for lodging Mrs. Gandhi, her sons, daughter-in-law, and others who may be in Jails to be transferred to Yeravda and lodged with Mahatma Gandhi.

Though the unconditional release of Mahatma Gandhi in these circumstances would have been, in our humble view, the best course in the interest of all concerned, we venture to state that, the request we make in this letter, is the minimum that we reasonably expect to be conceded under the circumstances.

Trusting you will be so good as to early place our request with your support before His Excellency and the Hon'ble the Home Member.

Yours truly,
Ambalal Sarabhai
Kasturbhai Lalbhai
Mavlankar
Vidyagouri Ramabhai
Nilkantha

Submitted

Arrangements have already been made re : Mrs. Gandhi. I doubt if we need do any more.

(Sd.) C. B. B. CLEE

I do not think we need do any more until Mr. Gandhi asks us. How many of his relatives are in Jail ?

(Sd.) F. HUDSON

Does I. G. of Prisons know how many of his near relatives are in Jail ?

(Sd.) C. B. B. GLEE,
I. G. of Prison.

U.O.R. No. S.D. 6062, dated 22nd September 1932.

In No. 1604, dated 28th September 1932.

As far as I can ascertain there are two only, besides Mrs. Gandhi who is with him—

(1) Ramdas Gandhi—son in Yeravda Central Prison.

(2) Mathurdas Tricumji—nephew in Belgaum Central Prison.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE

U.O.R. No. 880, dated 28th September 1932.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8844 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 21st September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by State prisoner M. K. Gandhi addressed to you. Eight letters for prisoners in different jails are enclosed herewith.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

Dear Col. Doyle,

As per our conversation I send you eight letters. I hope you will send them to the respective prisoners with instructions that they may be delivered at once and that the addressees are free to write to me in reply.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. GANDHI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 854 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd September 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Sir,

With reference to your confidential letter No. 8844, dated 21st/22nd instant, I have the honour to state that this office has spent annas 5 on stamps for despatch of the letters referred to in the letter under reply and to request that 5 stamps may be sent to this office.

2. While forwarding such letters in future please send the necessary stamps to this office to avoid delay in their disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons

Bombay Presidency.

THE HAGUE (HOLLAND)

22nd September 1932

Private

To

The Inspector-General of the Prison Department at Bombay.

Sir,

Having read about Mr. Gandhi's resolution to abstain from food I feel it my duty in the interest of Mr. Gandhi's safety to call your attention to a method which was recommended to me by a medical officer during a hunger strike while I was responsible for the management of the Prison Department in the Dutch East Indies.

The method consists in keeping away from the prisoner every drink except milk, it being alleged that no man will be able to suffer thirst for any amount of time ; so the prisoner, yielding to his thirst, will drink the milk which will prove sufficiently nutritious to keep him alive.

Respectfully,

(Sd.) H. M. HIJMANS,

Retired chief of the prison department in the

Netherlands East Indies.

Vivienstreet 21

No. 853 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd September 1932

To

The Superintendent,

- (1) Dhulia D. P.,
- (2) Belgaum Central Prison,
- (3) Nasik Road Central Prison,
- (4) Visapur T. Prison.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter/letters written by Mr. M. K. Gandhi to—

Manilal Kothari	}	Dhulia.
Jamnalal Bajaj		
Mathurdas Trikumji	}	BCP
Maniben Patel		
Narhari Parikh		
Jairamdas	}	NRCP
Kishorelal		

Fulchand Bapuji—Visapur T. Prison and to request that the same may be delivered to the person concerned immediately and he/they should be directed to send reply/replies direct to State prisoner Gandhi, Yeravda Central Prison.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8887 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 23rd September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to your Confidential No. 854, dated 22nd instant, I have the honour to send herewith 5 stamps, one anna each

I have the honour. to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 852 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 22nd September 1932

MEMORANDUM

I am directed by Government to instruct you to inform State prisoner M. K. Gandhi that he may obtain the services of any private medical practitioner as his special medical adviser, if he so desires. Kindly acknowledge.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8847 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, dated 22nd September 1932

From

Major M. G. Bhandari, I.M.S.,
Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to state that on receiving your telephonic message I informed Mr. Gandhi that he could have his own medical adviser if he liked. As soon as I conveyed this message, he made the following statement:

" I thank you for this extension of privilege, but at present I do not need any such outside assistance. I have full confidence in the Medical

care that is being taken of me by Government. If I need at any stage further advice I shall not hesitate to take advantage of the privilege."

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.
No. 855 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 22nd September 1932

To

The Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Political), Poona.
Copy forwarded with compliments for information.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt-Col, I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8886 of 1932
CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Yeravda, 23rd September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your memorandum No. (Confidential) 852, dated 22nd September 1932, and to state that the reply from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi regarding the services of private medical practitioner was communicated to you under this office No. 8847, dated 22nd September 1932.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8894 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 23rd September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith two letters, one from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to Miss Slade, prisoner in Arthur Road Prison and another from ' B' class prisoner Mahadeo Desai at the request of Mr. Gandhi, for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON

23rd September 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

Here is Mr. Gandhi's letter for Miss Miraben (Slade). Would you be good enough to have it sent to her at your earliest convenience, and also to instruct the authorities at Arthur Road Jail to let her write to Mr. Gandhi daily ? I take it that in case Mr. Gandhi is unable to write himself, as I am afraid he will soon be, I may write a brief line on his behalf.

Yours sincerely,

MAHADEO DESAI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 859 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 23rd September 1932

From

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency ;

To

The Superintendent,
Arthur Road Prison, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter written by Mr. M. K. Gandhi to Miss. Slade and to request that the same may be delivered to her immediately and she should be directed to send reply direct to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, Yeravda Central Prison.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.5.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

No. S.D. 6084

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 23rd September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. S.D. 5977, dated the 18th instant, I am directed to return herewith for delivery to Mr. Gandhi the vernacular newspaper " Dalit Bandhu " dated the 28th August 1932.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 860 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 24th September 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of further disposal in continuation of this office
Confidential No. 844, dated 19th September 1932.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniment.

No. 9017 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 29th September 1932

Returned with compliments retaining the accompaniment.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON
24th September 1932

Dear Col. Doyle,

May I trouble you with the enclosures on behalf of Mr. Gandhi ?

I hope they will be sent to the respective addressees with the necessary instructions to the
Jail authorities.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) MAHADEV DESAI

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8939 of 1932

CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Yeravda, 25th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that yesterday in the evening there was a big crowd of people, numbering 200 to 250 persons in front of the Jail.

The people had neither created noise nor disturbance, but still to ensure quietness, police help was sent for.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8966 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 26th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith 5 letters from State prisoner M. K. Gandhi to prisoners in different Jails for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 872 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 27th September 1932

To

The Superintendent,
(1)Belgaum Central Prison,
(2)Arthur Road Prison,

(3) Nasik Road Central Prison,

(4) Thana D. Prison.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith letters/letter from Mr. M. K. Gandhi to —

Mathurdas Tricumji

Maniben Patel

Miss Slade

Swami Anand

Mrs. Gomatibai

}

Belgaum Central Prison,

Arthur Road Prison,

Nasik Road Central Prison,

Thana,

and to request that the same may be delivered to the persons concerned immediately and he or she/they should be directed to send reply/replies direct to State prisoner M. K. Gandhi, Yeravda Central Prison.

I have the honour to be.

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 8971 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 27th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith two letters, one from Mr. M. K. Gandhi and another from ' B ' class prisoner Mahadeo Desai written on request by Mr. Gandhi, for favour of disposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Miss Slade's letter sent to the Superintendent, Arthur Road Prison for delivery and the letter written by Mahadeo Desai kept by I.G.P.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 9016 of 1932
YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE
Dated 29th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to send herewith a letter from Mr. M. K. Gandhi addressed to you. A letter to prisoner Miss Slade is also attached herewith.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 887 of 1932
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE
Poona, 29th September 1932

To

The Superintendent,
Arthur Road Prison, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to request you to deliver the accompanying letter received from Mr. M. K. Gandhi to Miss Slade.

Please state whether the letters for prisoners Miss Slade forwarded by this office were delivered to her as ordered.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 874 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 27th September 1932 From

The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency; To

The Superintendent,

Arthur Road Prison, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to request you to deliver the accompanying letter received from Mr. M. K. Gandhi to Miss Slade.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. S.D. 6231

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)

Poona, 29th September 1932

From

C. B. B. Clee, Esquire, I.C.S.,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

In forwarding herewith a letter addressed to Mr. Gandhi by Miss F. M. Barr of Karim Nagar, Hyderabad State, received through the Commissioner

of Police, Bombay, I am directed to inform you that it may be delivered to the addressee.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) C. F. BORGES,

for Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Home Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 886 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 29th September 1932

To

The Superintendent,

Yeravda Central Prison.

Forwarded with compliments for favour of further disposal.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,

Lt-Col., I.M.S.,

Inspector-General of Prisons,

Bombay Presidency.

Please return
retaining the
accompaniment.

No. 9080 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 30th September 1932

Returned with compliments retaining the accompaniment.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,

Major, I.M.S.,

Superintendent,

Yeravda Central "Prison.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 5760 of 1932

ARTHUR ROAD PRISON OFFICE

Bombay, 30th September 1932

From

The Superintendent,

Arthur Road Prison, Bombay ;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

With reference to Head Office confidential letter No. 887, dated the 29th instant, I have the honour to state that the letters for Miss Slade were delivered to her as ordered.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.).....
Superintendent,
Arthur Road Prison, Bombay.

CONFIDENTIAL

No. 898 of 1932

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS' OFFICE

Poona, 2nd October 1932

Forwarded with compliments to the Superintendent, Yeravda Central Prison, with the request that State prisoner M. K. Gandhi should be informed that all his letters addressed to Miss Slade have been delivered.

Please return.

(Sd.) E. E. DOYLE,
Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

No. 9183 of 1932

YERAVDA CENTRAL PRISON OFFICE

Dated 3rd October 1932

Returned with compliments.

2. State prisoner M. K. Gandhi has been informed accordingly.

(Sd.) M. G. BHANDARI,
Major, I.M.S.,
Superintendent,
Yeravda Central Prison.

[*H. D. (Spl. Br.), File No. 800 (40) (3), Part III, p. 439*]

My dear Gandhiji,

While you were on the fast at Poona, as Shrimati Sarojini Naidu and Mahadevbhai must have told you, I was deputed by high Government official to request you to break your fast and was given an assurance that the Bombay Government had sent in instructions, that they were in communication with the Government of India, and by Monday the latest, they might hear of the Premier's decision in consultation with his Cabinet to ratify the Act. Now you have raised the Guruvayoor temple question and want to have it opened for the Harijans in spite of the strongest opposition of the orthodox people whose ancestors were the founders.

For the full period of the council session at Poona, I was there all the while, and I had frequent talks with Dr. Solonkey and Dr. Ambedkar and other pleaders of the so-called backward community, and what I gathered from them was that neither they themselves nor their followers are at all anxious for temple entries but that they want their political, commercial and social uplift. If that be their views, it becomes difficult for one to understand as to what you propose to gain by raising an issue which is wanting in the real backbone.

On the 8th of November, there was Kartiki Ekadashi Fair and Cattle and Agricultural Exhibition opened by His Excellency the Governor of Bombay. His Excellency and Mr. Clayton visited the temple of Vithoba and Rukmini about whose sanctity in the eyes of the multitude, I need not add. It is stated that both His Excellency and the Commissioner Mr. Clayton, had their boots on while entering the temple and going on the top of the sacred precincts. Neither myself nor those who were with me in the company were eye-witnesses to their attendance.

The next day between 9 and 10 a.m. Dr. Burns, the Director of Agriculture, his family, wife of another European official, Mr. Gadgil and several others attended the said premises and the sacred precincts with their shoes and slippers on. At that time, myself, Mr. Harjivan Valji, the Secretary of the Bombay Piece-Goods Merchants' Association, who was heretofore a Rao Saheb and J. P. and who had resigned his said honours for your Civil Disobedience Movement, Mr. Mathuradas Haribhai the well-known Piece-Goods Merchant and J. P. and an Honorary Magistrate of Bombay, Mr. Mankar, Assistant Secretary of the Bombay Humanitarian League, and who is, I think, well-known to you, Mr. Vrijlal Narsingdas, the well-known pleader and merchant and the Honorary Secretary of the Bombay Gowrakshak Mandal, Mr. Ramdas Raghawji, the millionaire piece-goods merchant of Bombay and several others were present and were eye-witnesses to the attendance of these visitors. In their opinion, entering into the sacred precincts by anybody with their shoes or boots on was a desecration and insult to Gods, and some of them on the spot protested against the incidence. Whether these visitors were or were not told that entering the precincts with the shoes on

was a desecration, is not an issue placed before you, but that they might have done it unintentionally, none of us are prepared to presume, but the question that some of them have asked me to lay before you is whether your temple entry for the Harijans includes entering the temples with boots and shoes on, either for Darshan or for worship, and to have the worship of the Deity with the shoes on or to go over the top of the Deity and trample it under foot with the boots and shoes on. On the 12th ultimo, after my return to Bombay, I made a respectful representation to His Excellency the Governor, and the same not having drawn any response, I addressed a reminder.

As the matter was assuming a serious aspect and as they wanted to have this matter publicly agitated in the midst of the already troubled atmosphere, I sent the copies of the said two letters on the 25th November to the Director of Information to the Government of Bombay asking him to bring this to the notice of the Executives concerned. On the 27th ultimo, I received a reply from the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor by his letter dated the 25th ultimo, wherein he states as follows :

" I am to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant and to say that your previous letter is still under consideration and that a reply will be sent to you in due course."

By his letter of the 29th November, the Director of Information informs me that he was in communication with the Private Secretary on the subject. Thereafter I also addressed a joint letter to the two Executive Members of His Excellency the Governor who formed the Governor-in-Council, and as the subject matter had passed on from ear to ear, some of the members of the council gave a notice of certain starred question being asked. One of the sets of Mr. V. A. Surve from Ratnagiri District which appears to have been admitted by the President of the council is set out overleaf.

I might as well inform you that as I had to write to the Premier and the Secretary of State in connection with certain cotton and other matters, I have already sent over to them, copies of these also.

I have no doubt, as the Private Secretary assures, the matter would still be under consideration. I do not know if the liberty granted to you would either admit of sending over the said correspondence to you, which states the reasons why the sanctity should be preserved, and so I am not sending you the case.

The letter to the Premier and Sir Samuel Hoare and to the Members of the Executive Council have illusion to cotton and other matters, which I do not know, whether it will be permissible to be shown to you and so I am not sending them.

I do not know if the present liberty for an interview with you on the question of untouchability and temple entry would allow me permission to either see you or to ask you personally whether the temple entry includes the entering with shoes on. A day previous to when Mr. Mathuradas Vassanji, the Chairman of your Untouchability League, was about to wait on

you, I showed him the said correspondence and he emphatically told me that he would never be a party to this kind of desecration.

I do not know if he placed this view-point before you although I put to him point blank question as to whether the temple entry for the Harijans or anybody as a matter of fact would carry the boots and shoes on with them.

Since you are out for the political and Harijan uplift, the orthodox people are equally out to protest what they consider a sacrament to their Gods and Deities.

I shall be glad to be enlightened by you if you are so minded to inform me whether you are of opinion that the temple should be opened and no temple rules as to desecration etc. should be observed.

If you consider that a personal interview with you on this subject is necessary and would be permitted, myself and other friends would be prepared to wait on you, and if you think that the matter has any significance I have no doubt I shall be favoured with an early response.

My writing this to you, it is not to be supposed that any one is anxious to have your support to their grievances, whether genuine or imaginary, but it is only to draw your pointed attention to the facts and incidents relating to the temple entries and not observing the dangers that attach to the question of temple entries that I have been guided to bring these to your notice. I am sending this to you not as a direct letter but through the Superintendent of the Yeravda Prison so that he could have it handed over to you in case it may not be objectionable.

With my namaste,
I remain,
Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) W. J. HALAI

Question by Mr. V. A. Surve (Ratnagiri District) admitted by the President.

Preservation of Sanctity of Hindu Temples

Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state :

(1) Whether Government are aware that the sanctity of religious Shrines and Temples requires that the non-worshipping visitors to such temples should strictly adhere to all the religious feelings of the devotees and worshippers of the temples ?

(2) Whether Government are aware that no person can enter the sacred precincts of the Hindu Temple with his leather shoes on ?

(3) Whether it is a fact that Dr. Burns, the Director of Agriculture, and some of his friends including Mr. Gadgil entered the sacred precincts of the shrine of Vithoba and Rukmini at Pandharpur with their leather shoes on between the hours of 9 and 10 a.m. on the 9th November 1932 ?

(4) Whether it is a fact that the said day was the most sacred day of the year with regard to the said Shrine and that people in lakhs had gathered together there for the purpose of worshipping the Gods in the said Shrine ?

(5) Whether Government are aware that whenever, in the past, the Governors and Viceroys visited any Mohammedan Mosques and Jain Temples on such sacred occasions, even they removed their leather shoes and put on the canvas ones before entering them ?

(6) If so, whether Government propose to take any, and if so what steps to see that the sanctity of the Hindu Shrines and Temples is not violated by reason of similar incidents as are referred to in clause (3) above ?

Submitted with reference to Secretary's questions *ante*.

2. The rules governing Mr. Gandhi's ordinary correspondence (i.e. correspondence unconnected with the untouchability problem) are that all objectionable correspondence to and from him should be withheld by the Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison, doubtful cases being referred to Government.

3. This letter from Mr. Halai to Mr. Gandhi is as Secretary says objectionable, and is a clever attempt to get round the rules by introducing the subject of temple entry for the Harijans in an endeavour to enlist Mr. Gandhi's aid in ventilating a grievance from which Mr. Halai seems to be suffering. There is no reason why the ordinary rules should be suspended in order to permit of Mr. Halai's letter going through. It may be withheld.

No. S.D. 7579

HOME DEPARTMENT (POLITICAL)
Bombay Castle, 14th December 1932

From

R. M. Maxwell, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department;

To

The Inspector-General of Prisons,
Bombay Presidency.

Sir,

I am directed to return herewith the letter dated the 8th December 1932 from Mr. V. T. Halai, Bombay to Mr. M. K. Gandhi, which accompanied your letter No. 1142, dated the 12th idem, and to state that it should be withheld.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) R. M. MAXWELL,
Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
Home Department.

D.O. No. O/16608-B

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

Bombay Castle, 19th December 1932

In continuation of my letter No. O/16608-B, dated the 13th December 1932, I am to state that there is no objection to the Spanish Minister at Helssingfors entering into correspondence with Mr. Gandhi on the subject referred to in your letter, dated the 12th December 1932. As explained by you when you called he will of course write to Mr. Gandhi in his private capacity.

(Sd.) C. W. A. TURNER,

Senor Don Felix de Iturriaga,

Consul for Spain at Bombay.

D.O. No. O/16608-B

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

Bombay Castle, 19th December 1932

Copy, together with a copy of the letter to which it is a reply, forwarded with compliments to—
The Inspector-General of Prisons, Bombay Presidency,

The Home Department (Special).

By order of the Governor-in-Council,

(Sd.).....

Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,

Political Department.

Consulado de Espana

En

Bombay

Bombay, 12th December 1932

Dear Mr. Turner,

I have received a private letter from the Spanish Minister at Helssingfors asking me to try and put him in communication with Mr. Gandhi or his representative. It seems that he is interested in nature culture and has in view the translation into Spanish of one of Mr. Gandhi's books called "Guide to Health".

As Mr. Gandhi is in Jail, I do not know if it will be possible to give to the Minister a satisfactory reply. However, I am going to rely on your usual kindness and shall be much obliged if you will let me know if anything can be done in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) E. DE ITURRIAGA,

Consul for Spain.

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	1931	
February 1. 1931	Letter to a friend regarding official inhumanity against women.	95
	Letter to H.E. the Viceroy and arrived at Ahmedabad	93-94
February 4, 1931	Reply from Cunningham on behalf of H.E.	94-95
February 17. 1931	Arrival of Gandhi in Delhi and advice that Civil Disobedience should be continued at full blast and only khaddar should be worn.	11
March 9, 1931	Arrived at Ahmedabad from Delhi, given a tremendous reception and addressed several meetings.	12
March 10, 1931	Attended a meeting of Vanar Sena and Bal Sevika Sangh Lady Volunteers regarding compromise with H.E. the Viceroy.	4
	Addressed a meeting of mill workers and advised them to wear khaddar.	5
March 11, 1931	Addressed a meeting and appreciated the work done by women in Civil Disobedience Movement.	5
	Addressed a meeting of women at Visa, Shrimati Wadi and advised them to wear khaddar.	5
March 12, 1931	Left Ahmedabad for Borsad along with V. J. Patel .	5
	Halt at Navagam (Kaira district) due to request of people.	5
	A public meeting at Borsad	6
	Visited the Mandvas at Kaira along with V. J. Patel	7
	Desai and Pandya.	
March 13, 1931	The meetings at Gana village and at Anand and presented with a purse.	8
	Left for Nadiad and presented with a house and land by Chaturbhai Veribhai at Virsad.	9
	Three other meetings at Ankjav, Chaklasi and Borsad.	9
	A large crowd assembled to see Gandhi pass through on his way to Surat.	15
	Spoke to an audience at Harsanda stating that Swaraj is at hand.	
March 14, 1931	Arrived at Surat, visited Karadi, Rashtriya Shala and Matwad.	9
	Advised people that they should produce their own cloth.	10
	Arrived at Sisorda in Surat and left Sisorda for Bardoli.	13
March 15, 1931	Arrived at Surat from Bardoli	13
	Conferred with the Semas Zari Mandal. Left for Bombay.	14
March 16, 1931	Addressed two meetings of Bombay Provincial Congress Committee.	15
March 18, 1931	Arrived at Bombay in Vile Parle and visited Bhagint Seva Mandir.	17
	Left for Delhi with Pandit Nehru, Patel and Subhasb Chandra Bose.	18

<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Page</i>
	1931—contd.	
March 23, 1931	Addressed Parsis and Muslims at Karachi	27
March 24, 1931	A private meeting of working committee in Congress Nagar.	21
March 26, 1931	Held meeting in Nagar at Karachi and addressed inhabitants of Sind.	19
	Talks with Subhash Chandra Bose	25
March 29, 1931	Resolution on Delhi Pact and Round Table Conference.	21
April 10, 1931	Came to Ahmedabad via Amritsar and Delhi from Karachi to attend the convocation of Gujarath Vidyapith.	31
April 15, 1931	Left Ahmedabad for Bombay to see H.E.	32
April 19, 1931	Came to Ahmedabad from Bombay to attend the marriage ceremony of a girl of the Ashram.	32
April 21, 1931	Left Ahmedabad for Bardoli to see peasants	32
April 22, 1931	Transferred his headquarters from Sabarmati Ashram to Bardoli Ashram.	32
April 25, 1931	Held a meeting at Babla village with Kunbis and inquired into the conduct of villagers complained of by Sardar Garda.	33
April 26, 1931	Visited Akoti village	33
	Advised people not to deceive leaders	35
May 2, 1931	Visited Borsad along with his two sons, wife and Secretary and talked with the Collector over the question of restoration of lands and reinstatement of village officials.	35-36
May 6, 1931	Visited Borsad taluka for the opening of the Vidya laya at Bochasan.	37
May 13, 1931	Letter from Maxwell informing that Government is not accepting view exposed by Mr. Gandhi.	104
May 19, 1931	Visited Naini Tal and interviewed H.E. and held two meetings.	40
May 28, 1931	Father Verrier Elwin of Christa Seva Sangh came to meet Gandhi.	40
	Complained about the extravagant expenditure of Gujarat Pranlik Samiti in the meeting held at Bardoli.	42
May 30, 1931	Letter to Sardar	44
	Letter to a friend in Bengal to spread the gospel of Charkha.	45
June 6, 1931	Abdul Gaffar Khan met Gandhi at Bardoli Ashram	43
June 8, 1931	Pandit Nehru met and conferred with Gandhi	43
	Left for Bombay.	43
June 12, 1931	Proceeded to Moroli (Baroda State) along with other Congress leaders to lay the foundation stone of Kasturba Wanatshala.	44
	Came to Borsad along with Kasturba, Secretary and Abdul Gaffar Khan.	44
	Opened Swadeshi Bazar at Surat and gave a message on the same.	45
June 16, 1931	Abdul Gaffar Khan came to Borsad to meet Gandhi	45
June 24, 1931	Rohitkumar Hasmatrai consulted him on Gujarat College affairs.	46

<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>page</i>
	1931—concl'd.	
June 26, 1931	Along with V. J. Patel and others arrived at Bulsar from Bombay.	46
	Meeting in Bombay. Congratulated women for their work.	49
June 27, 1931	A meeting organised by Congress local workers. Motored to Pardi for a public meeting, and then to Udwada Railway Station.	46
	Left for Borsad	48
	Remained at Borsad, and advised that the so-called purchasers of confiscated lands should not be interfered with except by peaceful persuasion.	48
	Refused to have anything to do with the Bhagatsing Memorial.	50
July 4, 1931	The principal of Gujarat College corresponded over the exclusion from college of certain students.	51
July 22, 1931	Letter to Emerson enclosing copies of speeches of H. D. Raiah.	114
July 23, 1931	Advised Congress Workers (in Young India) on situation in Gujarat.	51
July 28, 1931	An interview with the Surat Collector	53
	An interview with the District Magistrate	58
July 31, 1931	Came to Ahmedabad from Borsad to visit the Ashram	54
August 1, 1931	Visit to Borsad with V. J. Patel to reconcile the Patidar.	57
August 2, 1931	Meeting with A. P. Desai, N.T. Pandit, B. V. Acharya at Ahmedabad regarding release of H. R. Rajah.	61
	Left Ahmedabad for Bombay to attend the meeting of Working Committee of All India Congress Committee.	58
	Performed opening Ceremony of Shri Chinubhai Temple for untouchables.	59
August 4, 1931	Came to Poona with J. Bajaj. Interview with H.E.	59
August 6, 1931	Strongly condemned Garlick murder in Young India	52
August 8, 1931	Speech explaining R.T.C. and difficulties	54
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	Proposed visit to London to join R.T.C.	
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	Arrived at Ahmedabad from Bombay	65
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August 23, 1931	Miss K. Naoroji met Gandhi at Ahmedabad. Arrived in Simla with Miss Naoroji.	66
August 29, 1931	Arrived in Bombay from Simla	66
	Went to London from Bombay	
	Meeting of Bombay Provincial Congress Committee	
November 7, 1931	Cable to working committee from London	67
December 31, 1931	Meeting of Congress Working Committee regarding developments in Bengal, United Provinces and North-West Frontier Province.	70

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March 20, 1932	Letter to Bhandari regarding Health of V. J. Patel	225
March 22, 1932	Dr. Rabindranath Tagore's message on the possibility of intimate fellowship.	294
	Bhandari is informed to take the interviews with Gandhiji in his (superintendent's) office in future.	560
March 25, 1932	Letter from Hemaprabha regarding transfer of the property belonging to Khadi Pratishthan to Charkha Sangh.	284
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	Letter from Ghanshyamdas stressing point of world wide depression.	313
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